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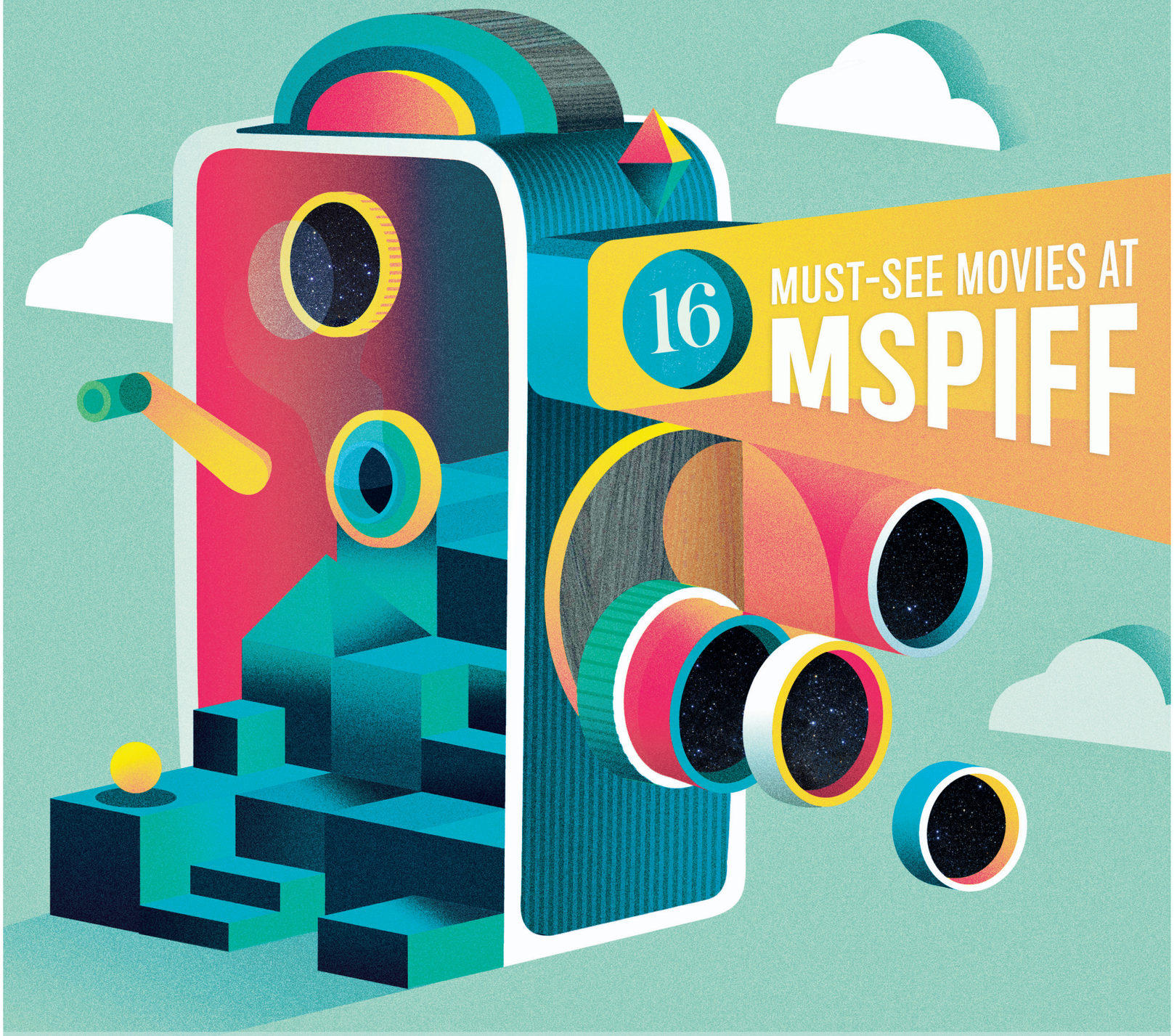

THE FLICKS WORTH YOUR TIME AT MINNEAPOLIS ST. PAUL INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

FOOD 3 new must-try taquerias *p. 19* | **A-LIST** Fashion Week MN ushers in spring *p. 23* | **MUSIC** Night Moves get big label boost *p. 41*

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April 6-12, 2016

VOLUME 36 | NUMBER 1844

9 **FEATURE**

MUST-SEE MOVIES AT MSPIFF

The flicks worth your time at Minneapolis St. Paul International Film Festival

By Michael Nordine

4 **NEWS**

THE SHORTLIST
"Thong Song" haters

BLOTTER
Naked neighbor

MIKE MULLEN
Rebranding Minnesota

19 **FOOD**

BATTLE OF THE TAQUERIAS
Three game-changing taco shops

23 **A-LIST**

FASHION WEEK MN
Two weeks of runway shows, glam parties, and more

37 **FILM**

EVERYBODY WANTS SOME!!
Linklater's follow-up to *Dazed and Confused*

39 **THEATER**

NEIGHBORHOOD THEATERS
Don't miss these smaller venues

41 **MUSIC**

NIGHT MOVES
High expectations greet their long-awaited follow-up

43 CRITICS' PICKS

46 **CLASSIFIEDS**

SAVAGE LOVE

CROSSWORD

cover credit

ARTWORK BY CASMIC LAB

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THE SHORTLIST

Protesters rally peacefully after cops not charged in Jamar Clark shooting
citypages.com/slideshows

SUSAN DU

STAT SHEET

The Republican presidential primary feels something like a leper colony electing its homecoming king. How the leading candidate, Donald Trump, plays in the rest of America, according to Washington Post-ABC News polling:

67
Percentage of Americans who view him unfavorably

80
Percentage of young adults who view him unfavorably

75
Percentage of women who view him unfavorably

85
Percentage of Hispanics who view him unfavorably

"If you hate 'Thong Song,' you also hate jazz and the Beatles. What do you even enjoy listening to? Ringtones and the screams of murdered infants?"

Keith Harris, writing "In defense of the 'Thong Song,' inexplicable winner of PiPress Worst Song Ever contest," at citypages.com.

FREELOADING

CONGRESSMAN ERIK PAULSEN (R-Eden Prairie) has developed a nice side gig traveling the world in the best way possible: on someone else's dime.

He just returned from Nairobi with his daughter. The cost for one week — $27,357 — suggests luxury usually reserved for narco kingpins and Saudi princes. But the tab was covered by World Vision and the Gates Foundation, two groups that don't blanch at the escalating cost of buying a congressman.

Paulsen and his wife have also spent a week in Prague ($10,000) and a week in Rome ($17,000). Because being in Congress means your arms are never quite long enough to pick up a check.

POPULAR STORIES
AT CITYPAGES.COM

RAYANN HAYES:
I wasn't Jamar Clark's girlfriend, and he didn't break my ankle

Watch video of the police fighting **JAMAR CLARK**

Reader: **PANTERA IS BETTER** than your favorite band

CLASSIC ARCADE BAR
heading to Uptown this summer

ASSAULTED TEACHER
Candice Egan back at work, still banned from St. Paul

RELENTLESSLY NAKED

To the chagrin of neighbors, Larry Fiero can't keep his clothes on

Less is more and nothing is even better. That's Larry Fiero's credo. Freedom from clothes isn't just a lark on a random Saturday morning. It's Fiero's way of life.

The nudist's lifestyle carries liabilities, however. In addition to windburn and bug bites, Fiero's personal nakedness has become an issue when he lays it out for public consumption.

In 2012, he was convicted of indecent exposure in Stearns County. His punishment was a year's probation, which came with conditions like no booze, porn, or drugs — and no nudity at home without closing the bath or bedroom doors.

Two years later, he moved to Meeker County, buying a home in a small subdivision between Litchfield and Edenvale called Crow River Estates. About a dozen houses populate the lasso-shaped enclave along Highway 3, which runs in front of Fiero's home.

So when he took to sunbathing and riding his lawnmower naked, locals wigged out.

Go buck on your own property all you want, a Meeker County sheriff's deputy warned him, just as long as the rest of America can't see. Fiero told the deputy he "moved to a rural area so he could pursue a nudist lifestyle." But he also agreed to do a better job about not exposing it to neighbors.

But passion again would trump reason. Within a month, a barenaked Fiero had been seen taking out the garbage. The cops had had enough.

Though three indecency charges were dropped, Fiero was found guilty on one count of "willfully and lewdly exposing" his privates.

When he took to sunbathing and riding his lawnmower naked, locals wigged out. MYTHUME

His two-year probation includes a peculiar caveat: Fiero must install fencing or some other obstruction to shelter the world from his au natural practices.

(Fiero couldn't be reached for comment. His attorney Troy Scotting didn't respond to repeated messages.)

According to one neighbor, who asked not to be named, an eight-foot fence currently girdles part of Fiero's yard.

"It does prevent those people who've complained from seeing into the property," she says. "I personally have never seen him naked outside. He's such a quiet guy who keeps to himself and it's just something he likes to do, I guess." —CORY ZUROWSKI

Rebranding Minnesota

Kiester's deal with Preparation H is the kind of cross-promotion we need

Mike Mullen

Branding is everything. This is what the 250 million advertising and marketing geniuses of America will tell you.

They will tell you this in a tweet. There will be hashtags.

Cities and states are getting ready for the coming #brandwars. Meet Minneapolis, a weird, pseudo-governmental marketing effort, helps land major events like the 2018 Super Bowl, while economic development wizards at Greater MSP convince out-of-state corporations that our educated workforce and just-for-you tax subsidies are a perfect fit.

Other towns can't afford such sophisticated strategies. Consider Kiester, Minnesota.

The town was named after a judge, legislator, and county historian from the 19th century. By the 1930s, "kiester" had become a synonym for "ass" in the popular vernacular.

It took a few decades, but Kiester has finally decided to roll with it. Earlier this year, the hemorrhoid experts at Preparation H asked if they could use Kiester to stage a commercial. As it turned out, the idea sat quite comfortably, so to speak. Leaders of the waning village (population 501 — wait, why didn't they try making a deal with Levi's?) accepted the offer, hoping a commercial will be shot there later this year.

It's brilliant. Let a corporation pay for your rebranding, and you reap all the benefits. Expect to see people with specialty seat cushions and a slight limp flocking to Kiester in droves.

And why stop there? Much of Minnesota is in need of a pick-me-up. Dozens of places could benefit from a similar boost of imagination and cross-promotion:

Bad Medicine Lake: Native Americans didn't like the looks of this lake because it seemed to spring up with no source flowing in, and no outlet flowing out. The alchemists of the pharmaceutical industry have no such qualms with the unnatural. Let's get this bad boy off our hands. Sell it to Pfizer.

Climax: The long-rumored "female Viagra" is just around the corner... they swear! What better place to introduce it than this provocatively named hamlet on the North Dakota border. Bonus idea: Film a few customers making the trip from nearby Fertile to the launch event. Post the video online under the title "Fertile women ride to Climax" and watch the clicks roll in.

In English, it sounds like you're asking someone to attend a singles mixer.

Darwin: This town wasn't named after Charles, champion of evolution, but it should embrace that association. "Creationism museums" have appeared across the country as a corrective to the tyranny of the fossil record. These will proliferate once President Ted Cruz gets a hold of those goddamn textbooks, and Darwin could rebrand as a destination for the last believers in scientific fact.

Embarrass: Iron Range towns are in need of economic stimulus, and tech companies are sick of paying Silicon Valley prices. It's a match made in internet hell. Bring Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram here, and replace the term "social networking" with "Embarrassing," a more appropriate phrase for what we're doing online.

Ham Lake: This northern suburb was so named for the lake shaped like a half-ham. It's nothing a few ingredients couldn't fix. Add dehydrated carrots, onions, white beans, "smoke flavoring," and — voila! — the far more appetizing Ham Soup, Minnesota, brought to you by Hormel. Microwave one to two minutes, stir, and lunch is served.

Norwood Young America: Let's just auction this off to a summer camp and be done with it.

Red Wing: The town is already the home of the Red Wing Shoe Company, but it's leaving money on the table. A deal with Buffalo Wild Wings, headquartered in Minneapolis, would be much more lucrative. All it takes is a simple renaming to Boneless Hot BBQ Red Wing, and the region's sports bros will be marching in by happy hour.

Rollingstone: Debate the Beatles all you want. Everyone's favorite member of the Rolling Stones is Keith Richards. This easterly village should tempt the guitar legend with a cigarette subsidy to relocate as a sort of a living-statue tourist attraction. The benefit will last only as long as Richards does. Doctors estimate that could be anywhere from five days to 60,000 years.

Stillwater: Named for the uncannily calm St. Croix River, this settlement, one of Minnesota's oldest, needs to get with the times. With a few bubbles and a little flavoring, courtesy of La Croix Sparkling Water, the newly christened Fizzywater, Minnesota, would be an oasis for millennials who don't deign to drink from the tap. One obvious risk: The carbonation fiends will drink the river dry in 24 hours.

Tenstrike: The fact that the Bowling Hall of Fame and Museum is located in Arlington, Texas, and not in this perfectly named north-central Minnesota town, is a travesty. Among other problems, all of our rich bowling history would be lost if Texas finally makes good on its threats to re-secede from the union.

Wanamingo: The origins of this name are lost to history, but it's thought to honor a heroine in Native American folklore. In English, it sounds like you're asking someone to attend a singles mixer. A sponsorship deal with Tinder could turn this sleepy city into the hook-up capital of Minnesota. And if a few residents start passing around infection? Send them to Bad Medicine Lake. Please make sure they stop before Climax.

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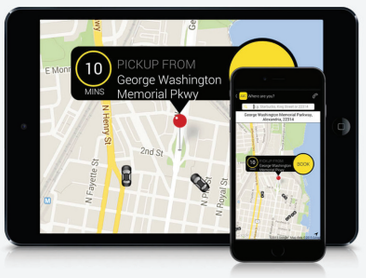

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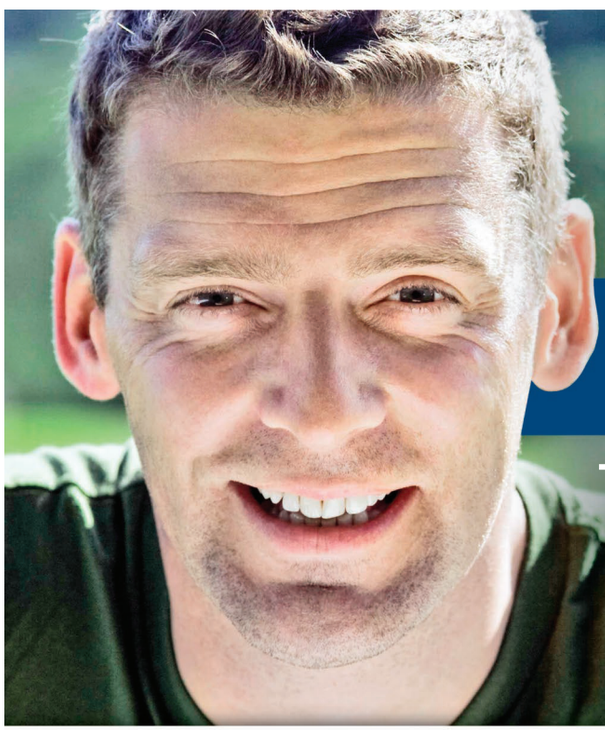

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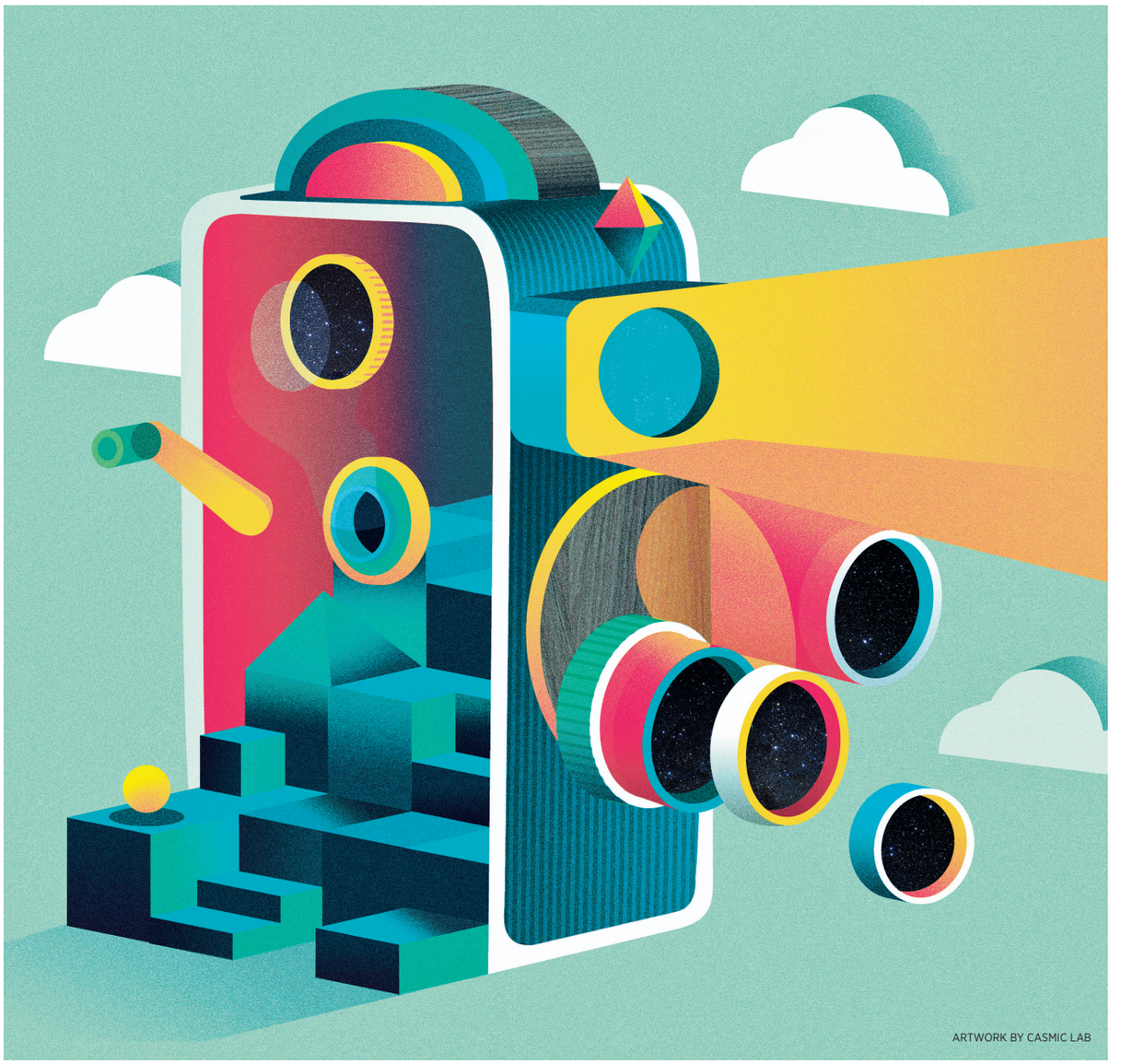
16 MUST-SEE MOVIES AT MSPIFF

BY MICHAEL NORDINE



ARTWORK BY CASMIC LAB

THE FLICKS WORTH YOUR TIME AT MINNEAPOLIS ST. PAUL INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

You could never hope to watch every single movie playing at the 35th annual Minneapolis St. Paul International Film Festival, but that shouldn't stop you from seeking out the best. More than 160 features and 90 shorts make up this year's program, which is divided into sections including Childish and Experimental and runs from April 7 to 23 — a full two weeks of cinematic bliss.

Whether your schedule allows for only a few movies over the coming weeks or you're simply overwhelmed by the embarrassment of riches, direct your attention toward these 16 standouts — the top 10 percent of MSPIFF's generous full-length feature selection, as it were.

Don't mistake this for an entirely comprehensive breakdown, however; there are any number of promising films that barely missed the cut. It's possible, if not likely, that a few of these will end up being disappointments, and a certainty that many films not included here will be stand outs. But the risk-reward ratio seems favorable for each of these titles, which are emblematic of the festival experience as a whole: Taking a chance on an unknown entity often yields the best results.

Unless otherwise noted, these films will screen at St. Anthony Main Theatre.

The Alchemist Cookbook

Category: Dark Out
Premise: A drug-addled hermit who lives in a trailer in the woods inadvertently summons a malignant force beyond his reckoning.
Background: Having recently completed his animal trilogy (*Coyote*, *Ape*, and *Buzzard*), Joel Potrykus now turns his attention to a self-styled alchemist eking out an off-the-grid existence. The Michigan-based filmmaker has displayed exceptional skill in portraying troubled young men whose disenchantment finds violent, often self-destructive expression, so it's no surprise that his latest protagonist is the kind of dude who would consider science and black magic one and the same. Given how little Potrykus' characters tend to think before acting, the seemingly fantastical direction of his latest micro-budget concoction should be seen as the illogical culmination of their collective psyche. The film takes its title from the controversial *Anarchist's Cookbook*, which you may remember for inciting a moral panic in the aftermath of Columbine.
Who might be interested: Fans of lo-fi indie cinema with a DIY sensibility veering on punk. Potrykus' vibe isn't for everybody, but those who appreciate *Repo Man*-style weirdness are likely to dig him.
When: 9:50 p.m. April 14; 10 p.m. April 21.

MSPIFF
APRIL 7-23
mspfilm.org/festivals/mspiff

Demon

Category: Dark Out
Premise: A dybbuk, a.k.a. everyone's favorite monster from Jewish mythology, possesses a man who's about to get married.
Background: Marcin Wrona died shortly before *Demon* premiered in his native Poland last fall. That loss to the international film community was made even more pronounced by how well-received his swan song ended up being. As with *The Alchemist Cookbook*, there's a folkloric quality to the way *Demon* places an ancient entity in a contemporary context — and a sense that such things shouldn't still be allowed to exist, if ever they were before. The possession occurs when the bridegroom-to-be stumbles into a pile of human remains (as you do) shortly before tying the knot. Lest the horror label send you running, let it be known that *Demon* has won praise for its tonal variations, so you can expect to laugh almost as often as you gasp in fear.
Who might be interested: Genre lovers whose tastes lean toward the art-house end of the horror spectrum, including *It Follows* and *The Witch*.
When: 10 p.m. April 16.

The Endless River

The Fits

PHOTOS COURTESY OF MSPIFF

The Endless River

Category: Images of Africa
Premise: In the wake of his family's murder, a man forms an unlikely (and potentially dangerous) bond with a woman whose husband has recently returned home from prison.
Background: Oliver Hermanus' third film takes its name from Riviersonderend (Afrikaans for "endless river"), the small town in the Western Cape of South Africa where it takes place. Dramas about damaged souls united by their shared sorrow abound on the festival circuit, but by all accounts this is an exception to the usual humdrum rule. The writer-director, who's been hailed as his nation's most important new cinematic voice, draws on everything from old-school Western aesthetics to the legacy of Apartheid in crafting his tale. If we're lucky, *The Endless River* will be the kind of redemptive story that emphasizes hard-won catharsis rather than pat melodrama. (The fact that one of them is a white Frenchman and the other is a black native probably does little to endear them to the local criminal element.)
Who might be interested: Festival-goers with a soft spot for character studies as violent as they are intimate.
When: 9:40 p.m. April 12; 9:30 p.m. April 17.

The Fits

Category: New American Visions
Premise: An 11-year-old boxing fanatic develops an interest in dance when she notices the cool older girls on the drill team at a nearby gym.
Background: Anna Rose Holmer's coming-of-age drama has already made waves at the Venice and Sundance Film Festivals, where she and star Royalty Hightower were labeled talents to watch. Set in Cincinnati and centering on an African-American tomboy, *The Fits* looks like the kind of under-the-radar fare that dares to break from typical indie conventions of quirk and preciousness. In this case, it's the first-time filmmaker's focus on the pressure adolescents face to fit in with this group or that; for Hightower's character, whose competing interests would appear to be at odds with one another, the feeling can only be amplified. This setup is admittedly nothing new, which just makes the plaudits with which *The Fits* has been met even more compelling — Holmer must have done something right.
Who might be interested: Anyone looking

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for an understated take on familiar subject matter.
When: 9:25 p.m. April 20; 9:20 p.m. April 23.

Francofonia

Category: World Cinema
Premise: A rumination on the Louvre — its history, its legacy — from the Renaissance to today.
Background: If you've seen *Russian Ark*, you already know what kind of magic Alexander Sokurov is capable of creating when he and his camera drift through a world-renowned museum: In a single elegant take, the film showed long-dead historical figures coming alive in the Winter Palace. Few filmmakers have shown such a unique interest in history, whether through abstract biopics on Hitler, Lenin, and Hirohito or works like this one. Sokurov's films can demand a lot of the viewer — *Faust*, which won the Golden Lion at Venice in 2011, is a distinctly uncomfortable viewing experience — but *Francofonia* doesn't give the impression of being an endurance test. Blurring the line between fact and fiction as *Russian Ark* did, the film includes newsreels and reenactments in its self-described "elegy for Europe" set primarily during the Nazis' 1940 invasion of Paris.
Who might be interested: Auteurists already enamored of Sokurov's heady oeuvre and art enthusiasts alike.
When: 4:30 p.m. April 9; 5 p.m. April 12.

Happy Hour

Category: Asian Frontiers
Premise: Four middle-aged Japanese women have their friendship tested by a divorce and a disappearance.
Background: Ryûsuke Hamaguchi's drama clocks in at more than five hours long, which will instantly have some readers skipping ahead to the next movie on this list. For those of you still here, know that the film is said to be fleet of foot and not at all a slog; it's even been described as akin to a highbrow *Sex and the City*. Think of its scope as being more like a miniseries and its length should be even less intimidating. And how often do film festivals give you the chance to binge-watch? Hamaguchi's drawn-out treatment of a seemingly simple story is further proof that epics come in many forms. Film festivals favor the risky, so take a chance on this one. Its length is likely to preclude a traditional theatrical release, so there's a good chance it'll never

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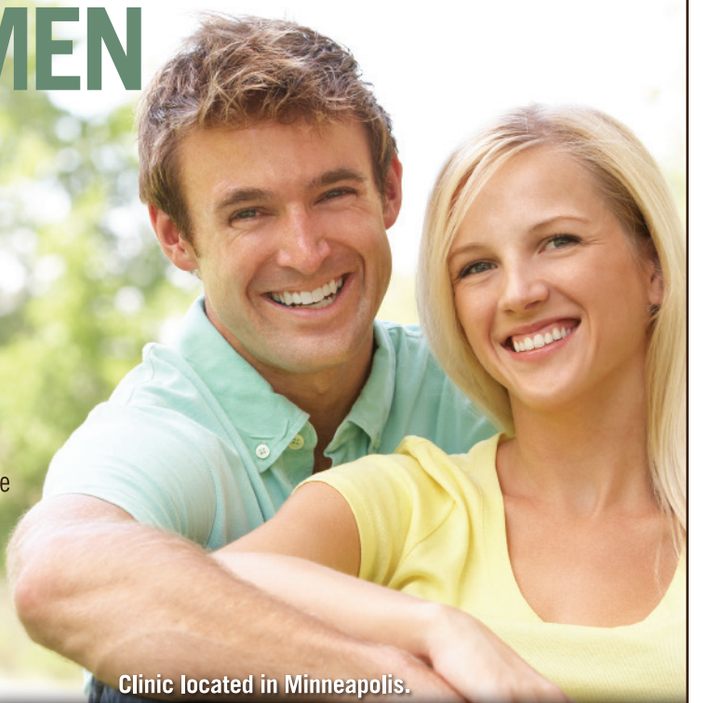

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play here again.
Who might be interested: Patient viewers who can appreciate the irony of a film called *Happy Hour* boasting a 317-minute runtime.
When: 6 p.m. April 11.

The Invitation

Category: Dark Out
Premise: A grieving father is invited to a dinner party by his estranged ex-wife. The evening goes very, very poorly.
Background: Karyn Kusama's close-quarters thriller unfolds largely in real time, meaning that each uncomfortable exchange plays out in excruciating detail. *The Invitation* is initially tense in the same way that cringe comedy is, but its overtones of dread hint at something more than painful awkwardness, as buried emotions, old friends seeing one another for the first time in ages, and expensive wine rarely make for an incident-free night. In spite of that, being locked in with these people isn't torturous; Kusama's use of the house in the Hollywood Hills where all this takes place is too thought-out and clever for the narrative momentum to ever stop. The fact that this is in the horror- and thriller-heavy Dark Out section of the fest should tell you that there's more at work here than mere family drama; without giving anything away, let it be known that the title refers to more than an invite to the dinner party from hell.
Who might be interested: Cinematic sleuths who fancy themselves experts at figuring out what a movie's playing at before it shows its hand.
When: 9:45 p.m. April 8; 9:15 p.m. April 11 (Uptown Theatre).

Kaili Blues

Category: Asian Frontiers
Premise: While on a road trip in search of his lost nephew, a country doctor passes through a town where past, present, and future commingle freely.
Background: Bi Gan's debut was a multiple prizewinner at the Locarno Film Festival, a Swiss fete with an eclectic programming sensibility that skews toward the outré. Everything about *Kaili Blues* has the feeling of a pleasantly dreamlike moodpiece, the kind that rewards close viewing while also inviting you to luxuriate in its hazy atmosphere. (Bi was a poet before he was a filmmaker, which should give you a sense of his lyrical approach.) No word on whether its narrative trajectory answers the many questions raised by its premise, but it's hard not to want to simply go along for the ride after hearing so many good things about the movie.
Who might be interested: Admirers of otherworldly reveries, like those made by Apichatpong Weerasethakul.
When: 9:35 p.m. April 8; 9:15 p.m. April 13.

Kill Me Please

Category: Cine Latino
Premise: A clique of teenage girls develop a morbid fascination with a series of grisly murders in a well-to-do neighborhood of Rio de Janeiro.
Background: Part slasher-inspired mystery, part coming-of-age story, Anita Rocha da Silveira's psychodrama has the most alluring premise of the entire festival. Everything from *Twin Peaks* to *Carrie* has been invoked in describing the first-time writer/director's film, which foregrounds a middle-class teenager named Bia whose fixation on the crimes goes even further than that of her friends. Adolescence is rarely easy, whether in Cincinnati or Rio. When the untimely deaths of several women in your neighborhood stirs something inside of you that can't be ignored, it's probably a sign that things won't be getting easier anytime soon.
Who might be interested: Intrepid cinephiles hoping to discover a bold new voice.
When: 3:15 p.m. April 9 (Uptown Theatre); 9:45 p.m. April 14.

The Last King

Category: Midnight Sun
Premise: Two soldiers are tasked with hiding the heir to the throne during a civil war in 13th-century Norway.

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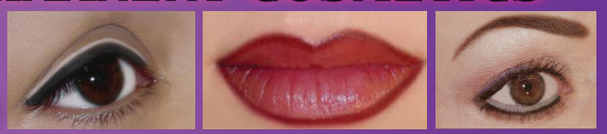

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Lo and Behold Reveries of the Connected World

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Background: Representing the Scandinavian sidebar, Nils Gaup's sword-and-shield drama is one of the festival's few unabashed action movies. Norway has been impressive on the blockbuster front lately, with *The Wave* providing an intelligent alternative to the mindless disaster movies of Hollywood; if *The Last King* displays anywhere near the same level, we're in for a good time. Focusing on the untenable blood feud between the Birkebeiners and the Baglers, those warring factions of yore, *The Last King* concerns matters of succession and survival in the year 1204. The aging monarch's sole remaining heir is a royal secret whose safeguarding is vital to the kingdom's future — and seeing it play out should prove compelling even if you've read up on your Norwegian history.
Who might be interested: *Game of Thrones* diehards who need to tide themselves over before the season-six premiere.
When: 4:15 p.m. April 9; 7:15 p.m. April 14.

L'attesa (The Wait)

Category: World Cinema
Premise: A woman and her son's fiancée meet for the first time in the lead-up to Easter and wonder why the man in question has yet to arrive.
Background: Piero Messina's debut premiered at the Venice Film Festival last fall, instantly garnering praise for its discomfiting moodiness and elusive plotting. As with many other great MSPIFF selections, secrets abound between *L'attesa*'s two main characters. Juliette Binoche plays the older of the two, and she's anchored many ambiguous narratives already. Movies about two women in close quarters under strange circumstances — think *Persona*, *Mulholland Drive*, and *Clouds of Sils Maria* — tend to be unusually nuanced character studies; that, coupled with Binoche's ever-engaging presence onscreen, makes *L'attesa* one to prioritize.
Who might be interested: Binoche devotees, of course, as well as fans of slow-burning mysteries.
When: 7:20 April 12; 4:40 p.m. April 20.

Lo and Behold, Reveries of the Connected World

Category: Documentaries
Premise: Werner Herzog explores the internet. Need we say more?
Background: Herzog has shifted between narrative and documentary filmmaking throughout his career, something few others have pulled off so seamlessly. This latest foray into nonfiction sets its sights on that World Wide Web the kids are always talking about. As anyone who's seen *Grizzly Man* or *Cave of Forgotten Dreams* knows, Herzog has an inimitable talent for teasing out the most profound aspect of his chosen subject (albino crocodiles, anybody?). The internet may be his broadest canvas yet, but there's every reason to be optimistic that his take on the internet — its wonders, dark side, and future — will succeed where other, similar movies have failed.
Who might be interested: Anyone who can listen to Herzog's dulcet tones as he waxes rhapsodic about the ecstatic truth at the heart of the series of tubes we all know and love/hate. So everyone, presumably.
When: 5:15 p.m. April 12; 7:20 p.m. April 21.

Neon Bull

Category: Cine Latino
Premise: A rodeo cowboy with aspirations of becoming a fashion designer comes to a crossroads in his life.
Background: Early word on writer-director Gabriel Mascaro's film has been almost entirely positive, including his focus on a distinct subculture and his understated visuals. In vaquejada, a Brazilian spin on traditional rodeo sports, cowboys attempt to grab bulls by their tails and subdue them to the ground. Our hero Iremar excels at this, but his real passion has a different sort of physicality to it — more gestural than muscular. Along with *Kill Me Please*, *Neon Bull* is already being canonized as one of the most compelling films to come out of Brazil in recent years.

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Who might be interested: *Project Runway* fans looking for an art-house equivalent to their favorite show.
When: 4:50 p.m. April 12; 9:45 p.m. April 19.

Sabina K.

Category: World Cinema
Premise: A divorced mother of two reconnects with a man she met while serving in the Bosnian army decades earlier.
Background: Shot in Bosnia and Herzegovina but directed by Cristóbal Krusen, who lives in St. Paul, *Sabina K.* is a based-on-true-events account of what would appear to be a doomed romance between a Muslim and a Catholic in a time and place when such a union is considered heretical by both families. Telling your kids who they can and cannot be with rarely works out, but Sabina's fate as a star-crossed lover ends up being sealed by something other than parental disapproval: Her new beau's sudden disappearance. A Minnesota transplant with global concerns, Krusen has made a number of films shot around the world prior to *Sabina K.*
Who might be interested: Locals in need of a hometown hero. Also, hopeless romantics who've ever found love in a hopeless place.
When: 6:50 p.m. April 17; 6:30 p.m. April 18 (Rochester Galaxy 14 Cine); 2:30 p.m. April 21 (Rochester Galaxy 14 Cine).

Tickled

Category: Documentaries
Premise: A TV reporter from New Zealand learns about something called competitive endurance tickling, which somehow ends up being infinitely weirder than it sounds.
Background: David Farrier's interest was piqued when he first happened upon videos of CET online, as his job requires him to seek out and report on the bizarre. When he reached out to the production company for an interview, the openly gay Kiwi was met with homophobic insults. He and collaborator Dylan Reeve set about documenting this strange, almost Kafkaesque process, with *Tickled* serving in part as a documentary about its own making. It's also a complex take on the nature of power and control, whether virtual, legal, financial, or otherwise. Farrier and Reeve were threatened with legal action almost instantly, but the harder their foes worked to keep their identities and practices hidden, the more determined the filmmakers became to bring this strangeness to light. You'll never believe how much deeper this rabbit hole goes without actually seeing *Tickled*, so make it a priority.
Who might be interested: Jaded internet addicts who think they've already seen the extent of its weirdness. Spoiler alert: You really, really haven't.
When: 9:55 p.m. April 16; 9:40 p.m. April 20.

Under Electric Clouds

Category: World Cinema
Premise: One hundred years after the Russian Revolution, the world seems poised to slip into another Great War.
Background: Aleksei German was an art-house luminary, and his 2013 death left a huge void. It would seem that his son, Aleksei German Jr., has soldiered on and not let the loss stop his own cinematic pursuits: He recently helped complete *Hard to Be a God*, his father's unfinished swan song, and is now back with a new work of his own. This speculative account of a near-future in which Russia has gone full dystopia unfolds via seven interconnected stories, with one constant being the strange electronic messages projected onto the clouds hovering over a crumbling society. That may sound bleak, but *Under Electric Clouds* has won awards for its cinematography and looks starkly beautiful in its own oppressive way.
Who might be interested: The apple never falls far from the tree. If you're an admirer of Aleksei German's demanding corpus — or that of Andrei Tarkovsky (*Solaris*, *Stalker*), whose influence on the fellow Russian is clear — see whether his son lives up to that tradition.
When: 9:15 p.m. April 14; 2:10 p.m. April 21.

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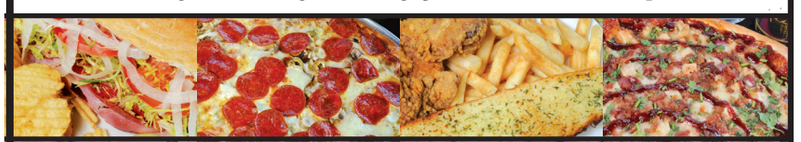

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BY MECCA BOS

If last year was the year of Italian, and this is the year of ramen, then put on your trend-spotting visors, because tacos are next. Already, three new taquerias have cropped up in our midst. We put them taco a taco:

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Lucha Libre wrestling culture is employed to great effect; a large mural depicts a crazed, masked wrestler with claws outstretched. Beyond this, there's little to fear. The space is simple and sleek with an open kitchen and welcoming bar. It evokes a beachside snack shack.

Take our advice and splurge on an order of the warm chips and salsa for $5. A duo of roasted tomato and tomatillo salsas were the best in recent memory — hot and bright and hot and smoky with crisp, flaky house-made chips. It's well worth the price.

The tacos here get props for being the most inventive of the three places we visited, and when they work, they really work. Vegan roasted cauliflower with toasted pumpkin seeds and lemon is a surprising powerhouse, as is the light filet of tempura-fried cod with Kewpie mayo and pickled red fresno chile. Pretty cubes of properly cooked steak with creamy poblano and heavily spiced chorizo with deep-fried potato were also memorable standouts.

Things fell down a bit with overly salty braised pork, bland shredded chicken, and dry al pastor. Tortillas from local purveyor La Perla were steamed, but could have used a pass over the grill or flat top. A deep-fried chicken iteration didn't benefit from its odd baby kale and orange salad. But a beautiful, strange thing redeemed the chicken elsewhere: A buffalo chicken taco with blue cheese and buffalo sauce shouldn't have worked but did.

All of the tacos are served with a genius acidic, smooth green chile sauce that doesn't fight with anything, but enhances everything, like good salt or a squeeze of lime.

Though the menu was like a tale of two tacos — best of times, worst of times — we still thoroughly enjoyed Luchador and will return. The prices are extremely fair at $9 for three tacos, premium cocktails for $5 to $7, and a buck off drinks at happy hour. Service is earnest, helpful, and swift, and for all of the effort they put into the place and the food, we suspect it will only get exponentially better with time.

Bonus Points: Bar Luchador has a mighty fine margarita. No frills, just straight-up Reposado tequila, Cointreau, fresh lime, and agave simple syrup. If you've spent any time at all in Mexico, take one sip and you're back on vacation. It's just $7 for the pleasure. Also stop in on Tuesdays, when all the tacos go for $2 each.

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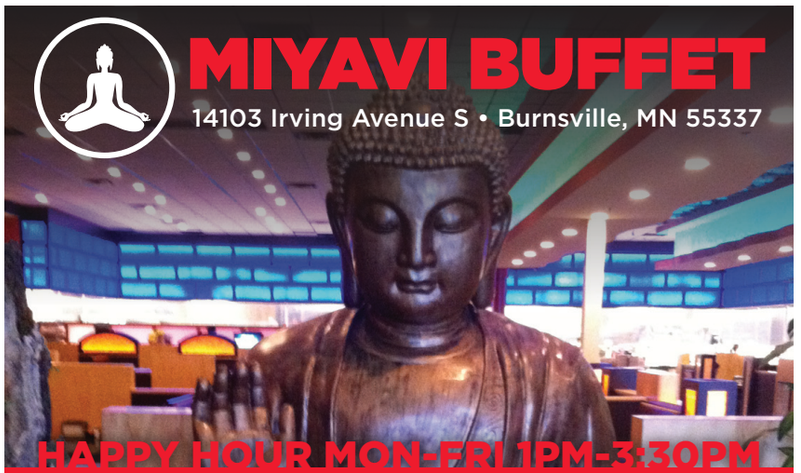

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LUCY HAWTHORNE

This efficient counter-service place is positively bustling, and we can see why. The menu is comprehensive, with almost 20 varieties of taco. Choose from standard options (chicken, steak), squiggly bits (beef cheek, tripe), and even things like huitlacoche (corn fungus) and squash blossom.

While you could eat here eight days a week and never get to the bottom of the tacos list, you needn't stop there. Enormous tortas, pozole, and menudo round out the menu along with a signature creation bound to make this place a talker. The "Machete" is a masa tortilla filled with lettuce, sour cream, Oaxaca cheese, salsa, and your choice of meats — and then deep fried. It's the size of a machete blade.

If you were to imagine Mexican soul food, Taco Libre would be the place to get it. The tacos feel deeply real, like the street food of Mexico. (The owners hail from Mexico City.) Carne asada is a full filet of steak that outsizes the tortilla. Chorizo with potato is heady with clove, and chicken is enlivened with a vibrant, mouth-puckering green chile sauce. Garnishes of onion, cilantro, and lime are abundant, and the salsas, available in spicy and extra spicy, are worthy of deference and respect.

Bonus Points: The pozole, rich and thick as an oil slick, bears a float of red chile oil that dares you to tangle with it. Big knobs of beef rib bob around fattily. This is a peerless hangover-buster. Be wise and pair it with a refreshing, non-alcoholic hibiscus flower beverage (jamaica in Spanish) from the fountain.

CIEN TACOS

803 BIELENBERG DR., WOODBURY
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HOW TO USE IT: WITH THE FAMILY IN TOW, BUT WHERE MOM AND DAD CAN STILL DRINK

Whether you're a Woodbury native, transplant, hater, or loyalist, we can all agree: There just aren't that many great restaurants in this eastern 'burb. So we were heartened to see Cien Tacos crop up in a sterile-feeling business park. We were even more heartened to find out that it's pretty damn good.

Though you never actually shake the feeling that you are indeed dining in a business park, Cien Tacos welcomes with warm hospitality and a big, front-and-center bar. A decent selection of tequila and mezcal is on offer, plus priced-right margaritas starting at $4.99.

Overall, tacos here are done well. Barbacoa is as good as it gets: meltingly tender, dripping with adobo. Ditto the bright tinga: moist, piquant, and well balanced. Bewitching and complex tongue (lengua) is as deeply addictive as aged beef. In fact, we couldn't find fault with any of the 10 varieties of tacos, except the fish, which was overly assertive and ground into a strange texture, rather than a more desirable filet.

Cien also serves pozole, menudo, tortas, and other American favorites like enchiladas and gorditas. And in keeping with many beloved taco joints, they've got a do-it-if-you-dare dish: the Torta Gigante, $24.99 worth of torta that's the size of a birthday cake. Finish it and get your picture on the wall, plus a beer. (Because somehow you'll have room for a beer.)

The only reason we had to strip Cien of major points was the selection of watery and insipid salsas. These did not taste as though they'd been made fresh that day (or the day before), and sometimes even seemed prefab. We had to resort to bottled hot sauce, a depressing move in a place that's otherwise quite delicious.

Bonus Points: Complimentary chips and salsa, the only place that offered this once-reliable Mexican dining amenity.

THE WINNER

While we liked all of the new spots for their respective assets, Taco Libre is what taco dreams are made of. Here you'll find everything you're looking for, save for booze, which goes to show you how much we really do love it. If they started offering drinks, we would never leave.

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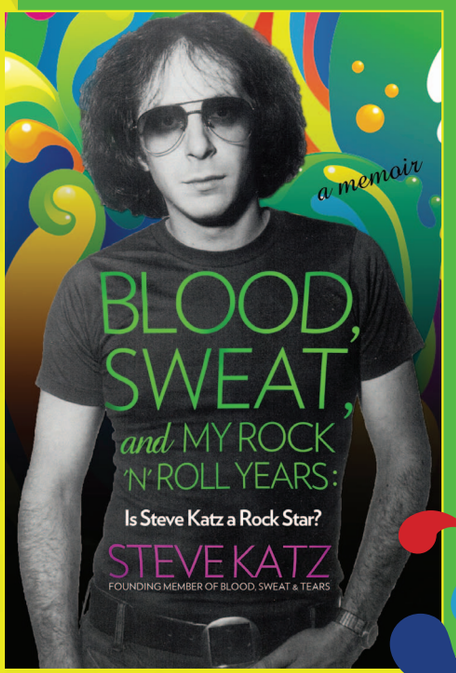
Blood, Sweat and Steve



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A LIST

FRIDAY Fashion Week MN kicks off **P. 29** **SATURDAY** Meet Minnesota makers at Lowertown Pop **P. 31** **SUNDAY** Sneakers Xchange returns **P. 33**

WEDNESDAY 4/6

READING

THE RIOT ACT READING SERIES: MICHELLE LEON

DEAD MEDIA

This Wednesday, former Babes in Toyland bassist Michelle Leon stops by Dead Media for the Riot Act Reading Series, where she'll be reading excerpts from her new memoir, *I Live Inside*. Mapping Leon's journey from a shy, Jewish teen in the suburbs to a punk-rocker in a groundbreaking all-female band, the book offers reflection on a transformative time for women musicians in America. Exhausted from life on the road, Leon quit the group after her boyfriend was murdered in a botched robbery. She headed to New Orleans, where she worked as a real estate agent during Hurricane Katrina and its aftermath. She eventually returned to Minnesota, went back to college, wrote for City Pages for a while, and became a teacher. While writing her memoir, Leon has shared excerpts at past Riot Act readings. Now's your chance to hear a bit from the finished book, and pick up your own copy. The reading will be followed by a set from DJ Laura Bennett of Black Widows. Free. 7 p.m. 3330 E. 25th St., Minneapolis; 612-222-1655. **—SHEILA REGAN**

THURSDAY 4/7

ART/LITERARY

SKID ROW MINNEAPOLIS

MILL CITY MUSEUM

Minneapolis was once home to the largest skid row in the Midwest. Farmers, lumberjacks, railroad workers, and vagrants convened in the Gateway District in the late 1950s and early '60s to get drunk, fight, and crash in flophouses. Sociologists studied the men who lived there, church mission workers tried to "save" them, but ultimately the city of Minneapolis demolished over 20 blocks of the area in an attempt to clean up its

"Urban Extracts" examines the art of architecture

LINDSEY RIES, *HOUSE OF SUNSHINE*

image. Star Tribune reporter James Eli Shiffer documents the demise of this colorful and controversial neighborhood in the new book *King of Skid Row: John Bacich and the Twilight Years of Old Minneapolis*, launching at the Mill City Museum on Thursday night. Shiffer conducted in-depth interviews with Bacich (a.k.a. Johnny Rex), owner of the bygone Victor Hotel, Rex Liquors, and the Sourdough Bar. Bacich's tales and photographs, as well as newspaper and archival research, recreate the stomping grounds of approximately 3,000 troubled drifters who were displaced when Minneapolis moved forward with its urban renewal project in the '60s. Mill City Museum will be exhibiting images from this era as well for its latest exhibition, "Skid Row Minneapolis." There will be an opening reception, talk, and film screening from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, April 7. Free with admission. 704 S. Second St., Minneapolis; 612-341-7555. **Through July 4 —ERICA RIVERA**

FESTIVAL/FILM

MINNEAPOLIS ST. PAUL INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

ST. ANTHONY MAIN THEATERS, UPTOWN THEATER, AND OTHER VENUES

Even experienced attendees are bound to feel a bit overwhelmed by the Minneapolis St. Paul International Film Festival (MSPIFF). Now celebrating its 35th year, the annual event not only continues to offer a dizzying selection of over 250 films from around the globe, but has grown to encompass an array of competitions, special events, guest filmmakers, panels, and parties. In a sign of its expansion, MSPIFF screenings are no longer limited to St. Anthony Main Theaters, but will also be hosted at the Uptown Theater (in addition to limited screenings at Metropolitan State University and the Galaxy 14 Cine in Rochester). With so many options, attendees could focus on the major events, like the opening-night North American premiere of Swedish dramedy *A Man Called Ove*, the closing-night screening of the northwestern Minnesota-set *The Seventh Fire*, and the centerpiece presentation of the Sikh gangster thriller *The Beeba Boys*. Those searching deeper will find the MSPIFF website an invaluable resource (mspfilm.org/festivals/mspiff), allowing users to build their own program centered on type of film, genre,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 27 ▸

7th St entry FIRST AVENUE THE RECORD ROOM

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SATURDAY, APRIL 9

SUNDAY, APRIL 10

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13

THURSDAY, APRIL 14

FRIDAY, APRIL 15

SATURDAY, APRIL 16

SATURDAY, APRIL 16

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20

FRIDAY, APRIL 22 & SATURDAY, APRIL 23

SUNDAY, APRIL 24

THURSDAY, APRIL 28 — SATURDAY, APRIL 30

WEDNESDAY, MAY 4

FRIDAY, MAY 6

SATURDAY, MAY 7

SATURDAY, MAY 14

FRIDAY, MAY 20

SUNDAY, MAY 22

TUESDAY, MAY 24

WEDNESDAY, MAY 25

THURSDAY, MAY 26

FRIDAY, JUNE 3

TUESDAY, JUNE 7

FRIDAY, JUNE 10

MONDAY, JUNE 13

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FIRST AVENUE & 7th St entry

ALSO COMING TO THE MAINROOM

- 6/14 YUNG LEAN *ALL AGES*
- 6/15 CATFISH AND THE BOTTLEMEN *18+*
- 6/21 BUILT TO SPILL *18+*
- 6/23 REVEREND HORTON HEAT *w/* UNKNOWN HINSON, KOFFIN KATS, LINCOLN DURHAM *18+*
- 7/12 THE WOMBATS *w/* COAST MODERN *18+*
- 9/09 EXPLOSIONS IN THE SKY *18+*
- 9/16 ECHO & THE BUNNYMEN *18+*
- 9/17 THE SPECIALS *18+*
- 10/09 BOYCE AVENUE BE SOMEBODY WORLD TOUR *ALL AGES*
- 10/30 AN EVENING WITH PETER HOOK & THE LIGHT, PERFORMING "SUBSTANCE" - JOY DIVISION & NEW ORDER *w/* DJ JAKE RUDH (OF TRANSMISSION) *18+*

7TH ST ENTRY

- 4/06 ALEX G *and* PORCHES *w/* YOUR FRIEND *18+*
- 4/07 PRINCE RAMA *w/* SASHA CONDA, OAKS *18+*
- 4/08 DENZEL CURRY "2055: THE ULT EXPERIENCE TOUR" *w/* JK THE REAPER *18+*
- 4/09 HÆLOS *w/* GOOD NIGHT GOLD DUST, PERFUME MONSTER *18+*
- 4/10 MADE OF OAK (NICK SANBORN OF SYLVAN ESSO) *w/* CHRISTIAN ROSENAU *18+*
- 4/11 SILVERSEED "ALBUM RELEASE PARTY" *w/* COLOR TAB, THE STARFOLK *18+*
- 4/14 NAZEEM & SPENCER JOLES "THE ALBUM" RELEASE SHOW *w/* ALIBASTER JONES, CRAM, UNKNOWN CREATURES, DJ BVCKWOODS *18+*
- 4/15 CARNAGE THE EXECUTIONER PRESENTS: THE MN MEAN MOVEMENT *w/* KATANA DA DON, ANDRE MARIETTE WITH AYVAH & JENESSA LASOTA, AND MORE! *18+*
- 4/16 STEP ROCKETS *w/* GRAVEYARD CLUB, DENNY *18+*
- 4/17 NATHAN KALISH AND THE LASTCALLERS *w/* STRINGDINGERS, JILL ZIMMERMAN *18+*
- 4/19 MATTHEW LOGAN VASQUEZ (OF DELTA SPIRIT) *w/* REVEREND BARON *18+*
- 4/20 BIG WILD *18+ - SOLD OUT*
- 4/21 COMMUNION: TWIN CITIES *ft.* JAKUBI, WALKER LUKENS, CYN, AIDAN KNIGHT *18+*
- 4/22 GET CRYPHY *18+*
- 4/23 BLEACHED *w/* NO PARENTS, ROYAL BRAT *18+*
- 4/24 POLKADOT MAYHEM SWEET! '16 FT. ALLY MATTSON, HYDRAH, DEATHDANCE, BOTZY *18+*
- 4/25 FRANKIE COSMOS *w/* ESKIMEAUX, YOWLER *18+*
- 4/26 FAT WHITE FAMILY *and* DILLY DALLY *18+*
- 4/27 SUN CLUB *w/* THICK PAINT *18+*
- 4/28 UMPHREY'S MCGEE AFTERPARTY *ft.* PHO *w/* DOKS ROBOTIKS, CHALK *18+*
- 4/29 COASTS *w/* KNOX HAMILTON, SYMMETRY *18+*
- 5/01 ELI'S 32ND BIRTHDAY PARTY FT. BLOODNSTUFF, RED DAUGHTERS, HONEYSTICK, JERMAICAN JAKE *18+*
- 5/02 CROSS RECORD *18+*
- 5/03 CHRIS PUREKA *w/* ANNA VOGELZANG *18+*
- 5/05 THE SHIMMY FT. ELI THE PROPHET *w/* LEX ALLEN, SAINT LARON, TURNSTYL, DJ BVCKWOODS, SAVY *18+*
- 5/06 DAY WAVE *18+*
- 5/07 FOG 'FOR GOOD' RELEASE SHOW *w/* GREG GREASE, PSYMUN *18+*
- 5/08 KEEGAN WHITE *w/* TREVOR DEVINE AND THE IMMACULATE BEINGS, SHANNON KELLY *18+*

For show announcements, updates, set times, giveaways, and more:
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UPCOMING SHOWS AT OTHER VENUES

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6
DMA'S
w/ TALL, TALL MOUNTAIN, CARBON HANDSHAKE
at the TRIPLE ROCK
$10/8PM/18+

FRIDAY, APRIL 8
GEOGRAPHER
w/ THE CROOKES
at the TRIPLE ROCK
$12/$15/8PM/18+

SUNDAY, APRIL 10
Journeys presents
ATLAS GENIUS
w/ SKYLAR GREY, SECRET WEAPONS
at the FINE LINE
$18/7PM/18+

SUNDAY, APRIL 10
AUTOLUX
w/ EUREKA THE BUTCHER
at the TRIPLE ROCK
$15/7:30PM/18+

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13
TONY VISCONTI + WOODY WOODMANSEY'S HOLY HOLY: CELEBRATING DAVID BOWIE
w/ JESSICA LEE MORGAN, TRANSMISSION'S DJ JAKE RUDH
at the FINE LINE
$30/$50 RESERVED BALCONY/7PM/18+

FRIDAY, APRIL 15
JULIEN BAKER
w/ PHOEBE BRIDGERS
at the TRIPLE ROCK
$12/$15/8PM/18+

SATURDAY, APRIL 16
WELCOME TO NIGHT VALE
w/ DANNY SCHMIDT & CARRIE ELKIN
at the STATE THEATRE
$27.50 - $32.50/7PM/ALL AGES

SATURDAY, APRIL 23
THE SUBWAYS
w/ PINS
at the TRIPLE ROCK
$16/$18/8PM/18+

SUNDAY, APRIL 24
JEN KIRKMAN
"I KNOW WHAT I'M DOING AND OTHER LIES....."
at the THE CEDAR
$20/$25/7PM/ALL AGES

- 5/02 WILD NOTHING *w/* WHITNEY *at the Triple Rock*
- 5/07 LITTLE GREEN CARS *and* JOHN MARK NELSON *at the Cedar*
- 5/10 CATE LE BON *at the Cedar*
- 5/12 ELEPHANT REVIVAL *w/* DEAD HORSES *at the Cedar*
- 5/12 MARC BROUSSARD *at the Fine Line*
- 5/13 NADA SURF *w/* GOOD OLD WAR (ACOUSTIC) *at the Fine Line*
- 5/21 SAVAGES *w/* HEAD WOUND CITY *at the Fine Line*
- 5/22 CHELSEA WOLFE *w/* A DEAD FOREST INDEX *at the Triple Rock*
- 6/3 BERNER: THE BEST THANG SMOKIN' TOUR *w/* KOOL JOHN, ANONYMOUS THAT DUDE *at the Fine Line*
- 6/4 GORDI *at Icehouse*
- 6/7 BRETT DENNEN *w/* FIREKID *at the Fine Line*
- 6/11 NOTHING *w/* WRONG, CULTURE ABUSE *at the Triple Rock*
- 6/18 EAGULLS *at the Triple Rock*
- 6/20 BLACK PISTOL FIRE *at the Triple Rock*

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4/06 **HAR MAR SUPERSTAR** W/ INVISIBLE BOY, CHERRY COLA 7PM
4/07 **TACOCAT** W/ ROYAL BRAT, LISA PRANK 7:30PM
4/08 **AN EVENING WITH SLOAN** *ONE CHORD TO ANOTHER* 20th ANNIVERSARY TOUR 8PM
4/09 **TUNES 'N 'TOONS BRUNCH** FT. KFAI 10AM-3PM (NO COVER/AA)
4/10 **OUTLAW BRUNCH** FT. BOURBON COUNTY 10AM-3PM (NO COVER/AA)
4/12 **MARSHALL CRENSHAW** AND **THE BOTTLE ROCKETS** 7PM
4/13 **A TRIBUTE TO HANK WILLIAMS** FT. **CURTISS A & FRIENDS** 7PM
4/14 **A LOCAL TRIBUTE TO HARRY NILSSON FT. DREAM ON NILSSON** W/ BATTLERAT, M.T. FOYER, MRDR 7:30PM
4/15 **CHRIS HAWKEY** W/ BAR CHORDS 8PM
4/16 **OBSCURA DAY 2016: A CURIOUS BRUNCH** IN THE CLOWN LOUNGE 11AM (RSVP)
4/16 **NORA JANE STRUTHERS & THE PARTY LINE** W/ THE SLAMMING DOORS 8PM
4/17 **JAZZ BRUNCH** FT. THE BRYAN NICHOLS TRIO 10AM-3PM (NO COVER/AA)
4/19 **THE THERMALS** W/ SUMMER CANNIBALS, CATBATH 7:30PM
4/20 **THE HOOD INTERNET** W/ SHOWYOUSUCK, LASERS AND FAST AND SHIT 9PM
4/21 **MINNEPSYCH FEST** FT. FLAVOR CRYSTALS, THE CULT OF LIP 7PM
4/22 **XTC: AN ALL STAR TRIBUTE** SENSES WORKING OVERTIME IV 8PM
4/23 **THE DULUTH HOMEGROWN TWIN CITIES INVASION 2016** FT. THE HOBO NEPHEWS OF UNCLE FRANK, THE SOCIAL ANIMALS, AND MORE 8PM
4/26 **WOODS** W/ ULTIMATE PAINTING 7:30PM
4/28 **J BOOG** W/ WESTAFA 7:30PM
4/30 **MATT ANDERSON & THE BONA FIDE** W/ LEE HARVEY OSMOND 8PM
5/01 **WHITE DENIM** W/ SAM COHEN 7:30PM

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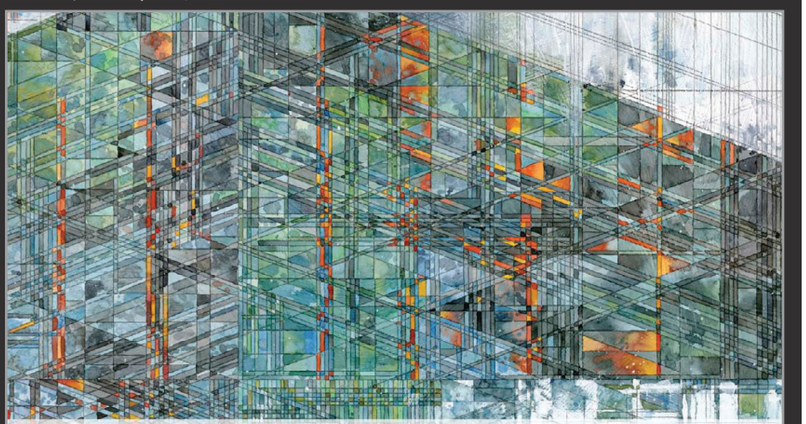

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BLOOMINGTON: Discland | CRYSTAL, MAPLE GROVE, GOLDEN VALLEY: Down In The Valley | ST. PAUL: The Turf Club, Eclipse Records

SARA WITTY, *TRILOGY*

CONTINUED FROM THURSDAY ▸

country, and language. See p. 9 for more recommendations. $13 per screening; festival passes available. Most screenings take place at St. Anthony Main Theaters (115 Main St. SE, Minneapolis; 612.331-4724). **Through April 23** —BRAD RICHASON

ART/BIKES

UNICORN ART SHOW: 2

CASKET ARTS COMMUNITY

For generations, unicorns have inspired teen girls, cosplayers, makers of kink memes, and other artists. They are so beloved that "unicorn poop," rainbow-colored baked goods doused in glitter, is now a thing. This Thursday, Casket Arts will revel in all things unicorn with a massive group show. At this party, there will be unicorn-themed art galore from over 50 participating artists. Guests are encouraged to be part of the show as well by dressing as a princess, dragon, pegasus, or any variety of My Little Pony. Want to bike to the event? A queer-, femme-, and family-friendly ride of unicorns and other magical creatures will meet at Powderhorn Park Community Center at 5:15 p.m. for a chill ride (with prizes for best costume). Free. 5 to 10 p.m. 681 17th Ave. NE, Minneapolis; 612-788-5551. —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER

COMEDY

PETE CORREALE

RICK BRONSON'S HOUSE OF COMEDY

It's been a few years since Pete Correale left the hustle and bustle of his native New York City for the pastoral tranquility of his wife's hometown of Fredonia, southwest of Buffalo. Small-town life hasn't particularly mellowed him, though. "I still get worked up," he says. "I think I will my whole life, because human behavior is just so ridiculous." An example: "I was flying home to Buffalo from Philadelphia," he recalls. "Right next to my gate is a flight to Erie, Pennsylvania." Correale lives about halfway between the two cities. "The guy gets on the P.A. and says the Erie flight is canceled due to scheduled maintenance." Even though he was going to Buffalo, Correale approached the counter. "I said to him, 'I've got to understand this, man. When you say "scheduled maintenance" does that mean it was scheduled for this time?'" The airline rep said it was, which Correale found incredible. "Why would you schedule a flight for the same time?" The rep assured him he could be re-booked. "I told him, 'I'm not even on the flight. I'm going to Buffalo, but I sometimes fly into Erie, and I want to make sure this doesn't happen to me.'" He's not just looking out for himself, though. "I do this for the people," he insists. "I'm doing this for Team America. I'm here for you." 18+; 21+ later shows. $15-$22. 7:30 p.m. Thursday; 7:30 and 9:45 p.m. Friday; 7 and 9:30 p.m. Saturday; 7 p.m. Sunday. 408 E. Broadway, Mall of America, Bloomington; 952-858-8558. **Through Sunday** —P.F. WILSON

CONTINUED ON PAGE 29 ▸

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COURTESY OF IGNITE MODELS

FRIDAY 4/8

DANCE

CIRCULATION: CONNECTING THROUGH EMBODYING RHYTHM

PATRICK'S CABARET

Erinn Liebhard has become our own ambassador for jazz and rhythmic dance forms. For this performance, she's assembled multiple groups and individuals, including jazz deity Karla Grotting with a trio "No Habla Español" set firmly in the Afro-Cuban groove, See More Perspective's experimental boom bap, and Liebhard's own Eclectic Edge Ensemble, which is teaming up with musician Bob DeBoer and his BrassZilla ensemble. The evening offers up classic jazz, waacking, rock, tapping, acid jazz, funk, house, swing, and more, and is not to be missed if you're a toe tapper of any age. $10. 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday. 3010 Minnehaha Ave. S., Minneapolis; 612-724-6273. **Through Saturday** —LINDA SHAPIRO

FASHION

FASHION WEEK MN

VARIOUS LOCATIONS

As the warmer months in Minnesota are fast approaching, it's time for us to throw off our coats and heavy sweaters and consider what that means sartorially. To help in this venture, there's Fashion Week MN. This fashionista festival takes place over nine days, with events scheduled throughout the cities. Things kick off this Friday at Cliché from 7 to 9 p.m., where there will be shopping deals (20 percent off items), DJ tunes, and more. Envision, the ultra-glam party showcasing Minnesota designers, happens on Saturday at Orchestra Hall. Other highlights include a runway show from Joynoelle (April 12 at the Minikahda Club); a social media/pop-up shop party at the Living Room (April 13); Black Hearts Ball, a popular cocktail party organized by Tim and Thom Novarro (April 15 at Muse); Fresh Traditions Fashion Show, an event showcasing Hmong designers (April 16 at Public Functionary); and the Shoot Part II, where revelers will be able to shop locally while taking in a live fashion shoot (April 16 at Shelter Studios). For tickets and a complete list of happenings, visit fashionweekmn.com. **Through April 16** —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER

ART/GALLERY

URBAN EXTRACTS

ARTISTRY MN

The lines, angles, ornament, and simplicity of architecture are the inspiration for painters Lindsey Ries and Mike Welton. The latter artist renders what he sees in buildings with a hyper-realistic attention to color and detail from a perspective that brings the viewer up close to the arches, windows, and roof lines existing high above eye level. Ries, on the other hand, imbues representation with an infusion of abstraction to create off-kilter, shadowy forms. Her houses look as though they may crash to the ground at any moment like a house of cards. There will be an opening reception

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Ira Glass explains how radio is still revolutionary

STUART MULLENBERG

on Friday, April 8, from 6 to 8 p.m., and an artist's talk on Tuesday, April 26, at 7 p.m. 1800 W. Old Shakopee Rd., Bloomington; 952-563-4777. **Through May 13** —CAMILLE LEFEVRE

SATURDAY 4/9

FASHION

ENVISION SPRING FASHION SHOW

ORCHESTRA HALL

For folks of a certain sartorial persuasion, the return of Envision is one of the best signs of spring. This biannual event, which is part of Fashion Week MN, showcases local designers who are creating hot looks in the cities. This year's party will highlight pieces by Hiccup by Handley, whose work is often whimsical and wild; the summery and feminine garments of Jenny Carle; Kjurek's edgy and on-trend looks; and men's clothing designer Russell Bourrienne. Also on the lineup will be boutique Cliché, and talents such as Cory Allen, Emily Trevor, Form over Function, and Joeleen Torvick. Music will be provided by Monsieur Adi. For tickets and more info, visit envisionmpls.com. $25; $60-$75 VIP. 8 to 11 p.m.; VIP entry at 7 p.m. 1111 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis; 612-371-5656. —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER

TALKS

IRA GLASS: REINVENTING RADIO

HISTORIC STATE THEATRE

"Basically, I'm talking about why I and my colleagues are making a show that is so different from most things that were on the radio when we began," says *This American Life* host Ira Glass about his upcoming appearance at the State Theatre. "I explain why we do it the way we do it. Partly, it's an excuse to play really funny stuff, or stuff that's experimental, or more emotional pieces." The radio show is more popular than ever these days. About four million listeners tune in over the air, and it's regularly the most downloaded podcast on iTunes, along with *Welcome to Nightvale* and Marc Maron's *WTF*. Its other chief competitor is its own spin-off, *Serial*. Glass, who executive produces that program, feels it's a natural progression. "The next thing for us to compete with are the series on Netflix or Showtime where the story unfolds over each episode. That's the next frontier, only we're doing nonfiction." The stage is also a different frontier for Glass, and though he did participate in a song-and-dance version of *This American Life* at a theater in Brooklyn a few years ago, there will be no big numbers at the State. "No," he laughs. "I'm sticking to what I know how to do." $48.50-$53.50. 8 p.m. 805 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis; 612-339-7007. —P.F. WILSON

ARTS

LOWERTOWN POP

UNION DEPOT

This Saturday, Lowertown will host a pop-up market featuring over 50

CONTINUED ON PAGE 33 ▸

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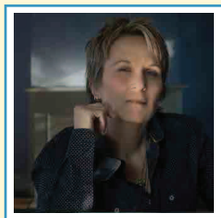

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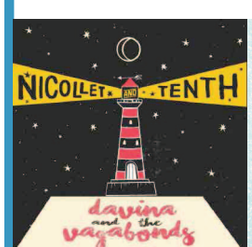
Influential Contemporary Sax Giant
4/14 Keiko Matsui
Expressive Pop-Jazz
4/15 Larry Campbell and Teresa Williams with Donnie Fritts
Americana Masterpiece
4/16 Steep Canyon Rangers
New-School Bluegrass Stars
4/17 Sean Watkins
Formerly of Nickel Creek
4/18 David Garfield
Pop-Jazz Keyboard Ace
4/19 Lizz Wright
Divinely Layered Soul and Jazz
4/20 Peter Bernstein, Larry Goldings, Bill Stewart
All-Star Organ Trio
4/23 Graham Parker Duo feat. Brinsley Schwarz
New Wave Rock Icons
4/25,26 Manhattan Transfer
Chart-topping Vocal Jazz Legends
4/28 Emily West
Nashville Singer/Songwriter



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APRIL 14

SONS OF ALMIGHTY

w/ PHO

APRIL 15

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APRIL 29

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4/20 ..... 420 Celebration "Dead vs. Dread" Feat. GRATEFUL DEAD & BOB MARLEY COVERS
4/21 ..... *An Evening with* Buckethead
4/22 ..... OTEP "Generation Doom Tour" w/ SEPTEMBER MORNING, THROUGH FIRE & DOLL SKIN
4/23 ..... SOAP "The Life We Live" *Album Release Show* w/ KIND COUNTRY & NEON GIANT
4/28 ..... PBR500 Feat. CRANKSHAFT & THE GEAR GRINDERS | $1 PBRS FOR THE FIRST 500 CANS!
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FESTIVAL

THE DOG OLYMPICS

MINNESOTA STATE FAIRGROUNDS

The Minnesota State Fairgrounds will go to the dogs this Saturday at the annual Dog Olympics. Here, canines and their people will compete and perform for our entertainment and for bragging rights. Friendly, leashed dogs of all sorts are welcome, as there will be a slew of activities and fun to be had. Check out various educational booths, meet other pups, and watch demonstrations. The day, which is hosted by the University of Minnesota College of Veterinary Medicine, benefits the St. Paul Police K-9 Foundation. $10. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more info, visit umndogolympics.ticketleap.com. 1265 Snelling Ave., St. Paul; 651-288-4400. —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER

CONTINUED FROM SATURDAY ▸

makers who create things like beer, baked goods, beauty products, visual art, jewelry, and liquor. Do a little shopping from the likes of American Craftsmen, bodylish, Double Take Salsa, Julia Moss Designs, Minnesota Nice Spice, Tattersall Distilling, and others. There'll be demonstrations and hands-on activities throughout the day as well, which include hat and jewelry making, printing press work, and coloring sessions. Ticket sales and donations from the event will benefit Face to Face Health & Counseling. $10/$15 at the door. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. 214 E. Fourth St., St. Paul; 651-202-2700. —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER

ART/MUSEUM

THE CHRONICLES OF NATIVE LIFE: THE MACMILLAN GIFT OF SETH EASTMAN WATERCOLORS

MINNEAPOLIS INSTITUTE OF ART

Seth Eastman was an army mapmaker and illustrator fascinated by the lives and traditions of Native Americans. While serving as a military commander stationed at Fort Snelling in 1841, the West Point graduate painted watercolors of the Dakota and Ojibwe people in the region, including what may be the first-ever images of the wild rice harvest and maple syrup tapping. Eastman depicted the tribes down to the minute details of their tepees, canoes, and headdresses with the eye of an ethnographer. The bucolic mood, earth-tone hues, and tranquil waters of the Mississippi and Minnesota rivers evoke a simpler time in the state's history. Thirty-five of Eastman's drawings and watercolors, many of them based on Minnesotan scenes, will be exhibited in "The Chronicles of Native Life: The MacMillan Gift of Seth Eastman Watercolors," opening Saturday at Mia. Though it could be said that Eastman's vignettes of these indigenous hunter-gatherer societies were seen through rose-colored glasses, the artistry is no less impressive. Eastman was later commissioned by Congress to create 17 paintings of the country's fortifications, which are still on display in the U.S. Capitol. 2400 Third Ave. S., Minneapolis; 612-870-3131. **Through January 8, 2017** —ERICA RIVERA

SUNDAY 4/10

FASHION

TWIN CITIES SNEAKER ART XCHANGE

MAYO CLINIC SQUARE

While Fashion Week MN rages on in various locations, Twin Cities Sneaker Art Xchange is all about kicks. At this footwear exhibition and pop-up shop, folks will be able to check out custom-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 35 ▸

What's your best idea for the arts?

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Pictured: Mu Performing Arts

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Lorca's Women

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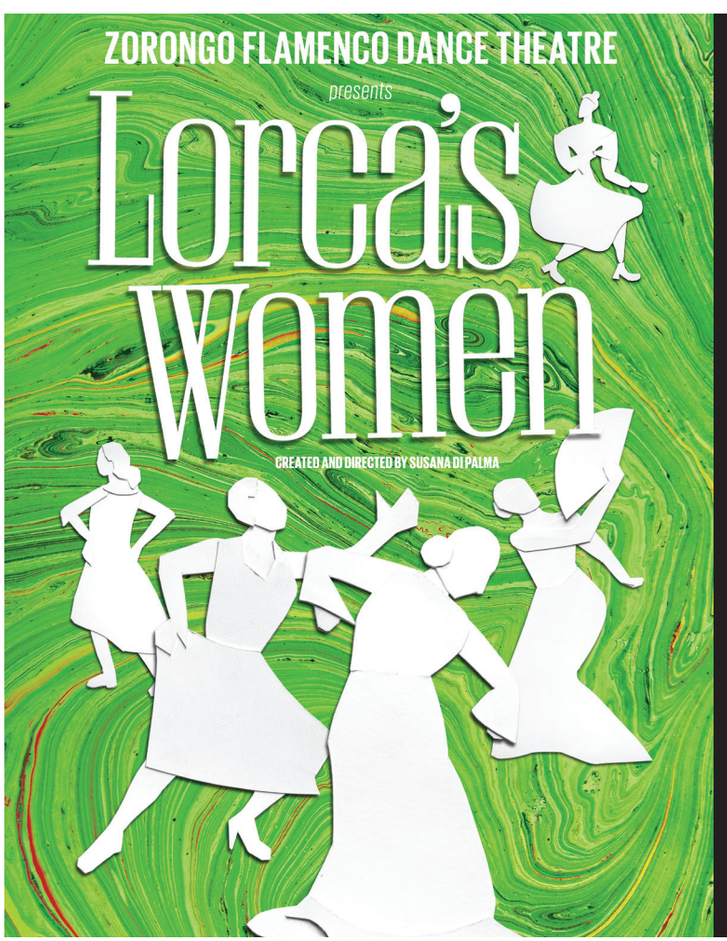

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, APRIL 15 & 16 AT 8 P.M.
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The Cowles Center for Dance & Performing Arts
Tickets $30

A suite of dances evoking the images found in the poetry and plays of Spain's beloved writer Federico García Lorca. Through sensual movement and the percussive power of flamenco dance, song and guitar, this new work will bring Lorca's women across space and time.

Featuring guest artists: Dancer Omayra Amaya, Flamenco Guitarist Jose Valle "Chuscales" and Roberto Castellon, Singers Kina Mendez & La Conja and Susana di Palma with Zorongo dancers.

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This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund. Lorca's Women is also made possible by funding from the Goodale Family Foundation, 3M, Anchor Bank, and individual donors. Zorongo Flamenco is supported by the McKnight Foundation, Target Foundation, Archie D. & Bertha H. Walker Foundation, Metropolitan Regional Arts Council, Minnesota State Arts Board & many generous donors.

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The road to curtain call is often chaotic

MATTHEW MURPHY

CONTINUED FROM SUNDAY ▸

made shoes, original art, and other apparel and accessories. Trade items or shop from vendors. Entry to this event includes a ticket to the Timberwolves' game versus the Houston Rockets. For more info, visit www.studiyo23.com.$20-$40. Noon to 6 p.m. 600 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis, 612-313-0520. **—JESSICA ARMBRUSTER**

MONDAY 4/11

LITERARY

ROB SPILLMAN

COMMON GOOD BOOKS

Rob Spillman, a journalist and the editor of the literary journal *Tin House*, spent his early years surrounded by cosmopolitan artists in Cold War–era West Berlin, where his mother was an opera singer and his father a concert pianist. The marriage failed, and eventually everyone returned to the States, but the lure of expatriate bohemia lingered with Spillman. Just after the fall of the Berlin Wall but before reunification, Spillman and his wife, fellow writer Elissa Schappell, lived briefly and somewhat squalidly among resourceful leftists in beleaguered East Berlin. Spillman's new memoir, *All Tomorrow's Parties*, pinballs between this 1990 East Berlin experiment and a tour of his youth, from feelings of childhood abandonment to punk epiphanies to meeting Schappell in New York. In contrast to his prodigious and driven parents and his industrious wife, Spillman was something of a romantic bungler, and his bildungs-memoir and love story is particularly good at celebrating the flailing beauty of inchoate dreams. Free. 7 p.m. 38 S. Snelling Ave., St. Paul; 651-225-8989. **—DYLAN HICKS**

TUESDAY 4/12

THEATER

BULLETS OVER BROADWAY

ORDWAY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

A 1920s period satire of the creative compromises inherent to marquee glory, *Bullets Over Broadway* concerns a struggling playwright who, desperate for financing, cuts a Faustian deal with a criminal kingpin who agrees to stake the endeavor, but only if his girlfriend is given a major role. Although the aspiring starlet proves hopelessly inept, she is just one of the many ill-considered additions to a motley cast and crew that includes an aging diva, a leading man who compulsively eats, and a watchful thug who cannot resist lending his own artistic revisions to the script. The piece, co-written by Woody Allen and Douglas McGrath, infuses witty dialogue with vintage jazz razzle-dazzle. The play benefits enormously from the acclaimed choreography of Susan Stroman, who also directed the original Broadway run. $37-$111. 7:30 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday; 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. 345 Washington St., St. Paul; 651-224-4222. **Through April 17 —BRAD RICHASON**

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BROS WILL BE BROS

Frontiers are where you find them in *Everybody Wants Some!!*

College brings nascent existential confusion. Plus, beer and girls.

VAN REDIN/PARAMOUNT PICTURES AND ANNAPURNA PICTURES VIA AP

BY MICHAEL NORDINE

Richard Linklater's status as the master of highbrow hangout comedies is confirmed in *Everybody Wants Some!!*, his spiritual successor to *Dazed and Confused*. Shifting the adolescent shenanigans from the '70s to the '80s, this new film retains the writer-director's signature air of casual profundity.

That may seem hard to believe at first. The early scenes are almost exclusively focused on a group of college baseball players' noble quest to get drunk and/or laid during the weekend before classes start at the fictional Southeast Texas University. Chief among them is Jake Bradford (Blake Jenner), a freshman pitcher who shows up to the team's off-campus house with hopes of good times both on the field and off. As ever with Linklater, that setup gives little sense of the loose narrative's creeping emotional resonance. No one imbues this kind of material with so much depth so subtly; the *Before Sunrise* and *Boyhood* director always gives the impression of effortlessness.

The relaxed tone shifts halfway through with, of all things, a philosophical bong-ripping session. Jake and three of his teammates ruminate on everything from sharks and baseball to music, including some shade thrown Van Halen's way. Leave it to Linklater to name his movie after a band's song and then have one of his stoned characters denounce them as a product of corporate America. The more "whoa, dude" their musings get, the more they verge on actual truth.

College is a tabula rasa for these incoming freshmen. After three consecutive nights at three different clubs — disco, country, and punk — Jake starts to wonder who he really is. How else do college kids define themselves if not through their taste in clothes and music? (Not coincidentally, *Everybody Wants Some!!* has a soundtrack just begging for a limited-edition vinyl release.) He and his teammates are quick to adapt to any new situation, which makes for a lot of fun nights but also some nascent existential confusion.

This isn't Jake's first foray into existential thought, it turns out, as he got into STU on the strength of an essay relating the myth of Sisyphus to baseball. We don't learn this until late in the game, by which time first impressions have hardened and our conception of him would appear to be fixed. But then it isn't. Like the film as a whole, this Whitman-quoting ballplayer contains multitudes. He's just too modest to show it off most of the time.

It's telling and intentional that a movie about living in the moment is set 35 years ago — wisdom comes with time, and if these kids were already aware of how meaningful these experiences are they wouldn't be having nearly as much fun. There's a tension to that, as well as a melancholy that Linklater doesn't shy away from. It's eventually revealed, for instance, that a player on the team who's just transferred from another school is an imposter, a 30-year-old who refuses to graduate into adulthood. That makes him a sort of descendant to Wooderson from *Dazed and Confused*, that early Matthew McConaughey creation immortalized by his grand declaration about high school girls: "I get older, they stay the same age."

There's something inherently sad about both characters, but Linklater doesn't linger on either of them — in part because he doesn't want to harsh our mellow, but also because he doesn't need to in order for us to realize the score. Such moments are peppered throughout *Everybody Wants Some!!*, and by its end you'll realize that it was never all fun and games in the first place.

Not that it isn't a good time. Linklater may be looking at all this through rose-tinted lenses, but he's not blind to the fact that much of it is quite literally on the level of freshman-year philosophy. It's just that, perhaps more than any other working filmmaker, he's so patient with his characters, so willing to give them the benefit of the doubt, that it's difficult not to feel the same way about them that he does. The object of Jake's affection notes at one point that any experience is as meaningful as you make it, which may as well be this film's thesis statement — and a point it proves repeatedly.

EVERYBODY WANTS SOME!!
directed by Richard Linklater
opens Friday, Lagoon Cinema

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THEATER

BEYOND THE BIG SHOW

Five neighborhood theaters that do more with less

Stage setup for *Black Nativity* at Penumbra Theatre

COURTESY OF PENUMBRA THEATRE

BY JAY GABLER

Some of the best places to see shows in the Twin Cities lie well beyond the glittering marquees of Hennepin Avenue, the ornate lobby of the Ordway, and the vertically scrolling lights of the Guthrie. Here are five theaters, outside the downtown centers of Minneapolis and St. Paul, that you shouldn't miss making a trip to.

Jungle Theater

2951 LYNDALE AVE. S., MINNEAPOLIS

It's amazing how many people stumble past the Jungle in south Minneapolis without ever actually setting foot inside. The Jungle is a small but elegant theater that brings you much closer to the action than the vast proscenium stages you'll find downtown. And under the direction of its newly appointed leader, Sarah Rasmussen, the action is well-worth seeing. If you're looking for a Lyn-Lake escape, whether from the howling winds of winter or the sultry summer air, try grabbing a seat at the Jungle.

Penumbra Theatre

270 N. KENT ST., ST PAUL

After hearing about Penumbra's international reputation for excellence, you might find yourself surprised when your GPS leads you to an unassuming community center. Yes, you're at the right place. Walk through the doors of the Hallie Q. Brown Community Center and you'll see Penumbra's inviting, recently remodeled lobby. Beyond that is a flexible and intimate theater with seats rising around a stage that's perfectly suited for the compelling storytelling this African-American company has made its specialty for four decades.

Open Eye Figure Theatre

506 E. 24TH ST., MINNEAPOLIS

If you drive to Open Eye, you'll likely find yourself parking against the thundering I-35W freeway wall. Practically hidden behind heavily draped curtains in a Phillips neighborhood storefront space, Open Eye Figure Theatre has a tiny stage where the company and visiting artists work wonders with puppetry, acting, and live music. Once the show starts, you'll be amazed how many surprises this little theater can hold.

Capri Theater

2027 W. BROADWAY AVE., MINNEAPOLIS

In 1979, Prince played his first solo show at this north Minneapolis landmark: a multi-purpose 250-seat theater, built in 1927 as a movie house, that's now owned and operated by the adjoining Plymouth Christian Youth Center. At the Capri you'll see everything, including youth Shakespeare productions, dark comedies, soul singing, chamber music, and open-mic nights. Pick a program that suits you and make your way to this essential venue.

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PRETTY 'PENNIED'

Quarter-life dread and big-time expectations informed long-awaited Night Moves album *Pennied Days*

John Pelant and Micky Alfano are workin' on their Night Moves.

BRYAN DERBALLA

BY JERARD FAGERBERG

Night Moves seemingly came from nowhere with their 2012 debut album, *Colored Emotions*.

That record was posted for free on Bandcamp and within weeks had generated so much adulation that London label Domino Recording Co. (Animal Collective, the Kills, Hot Chip) signed the band to a deal. The Minneapolis trio went back to the studio, touched up the mixes, and re-released *Colored Emotions* to an eager national audience in 2013.

It was the kind of rise rock critics like to call "meteoric," and even though the big-name blogs were lukewarm toward *Colored Emotions*, Night Moves had cemented themselves as one of the buzziest bands out of the Twin Cities. After the album's re-release, they toured with Lord Huron and Father John Misty. Locally, they were named Best New Band by City Pages, beating out fellow rocketeers Howler, who'd been snatched up by Rough Trade Records weeks before Night Moves' own signing.

The narrative was simple and reiterable: cavalier slackers who got together, gave a nod to Bob Seger, and roughed up a bit of magic. But it couldn't have been further from reality.

"We were making *Colored Emotions* for like two and a half years," says frontman John Pelant, who'd been playing in bands with bassist Micky Alfano and then-keyboardist Mark Ritsema since high school. "People were like, 'It sounds so polished for a first band,' but that's what happens when you don't just shit out a record and you take your time."

It's been three and a half years since that record dropped — an eternity in the cannibalistic world of buzz bands — but now Night Moves are back to prove patience pays dividends with their sophomore cut, *Pennied Days*. The album — which dropped on March 25 and will be celebrated at First Avenue on April 14 — takes the ennui and psychedelia of the band's debut and sends it out to space.

"All I could think about was the sophomore slump," Pelant says. "When you're not touring or putting out music, it really feels like you've fallen off the map. You don't wanna make the same record and have it come out two years later, because people will be like, 'What the fuck were you doing that whole time?'"

The layover between *Colored Emotions* and *Pennied Days* represented a magnitudinal change for Pelant and Alfano. It's a window through which they watched friends overdose and commit suicide and others get married and have kids. People from their high school built up their 401ks and invested in property; meanwhile Pelant and Alfano took time off from bartending to play South by Southwest.

The "pennied days" to which the album refers are the years between the ages of 23 and 27 where you're asked to make the first permanent decisions of your life, Pelant says. It's the period when most people pick out the nouns that will define them for the rest of their lives (teacher, accountant, musician), when nostalgia is its most coercive and doubt its most sickening. *Pennied Days* is a time capsule of this vortex.

NIGHT MOVES
will celebrate the release of *Pennied Days* on April 14 at First Avenue.

"It's like, where do I fit in all of this?" Pelant says. "Do I wanna be touring or on a label? Do I get a job? I've got a degree, so it makes me wonder whether I shouldn't do music, and who I would be if I gave up. And that got pretty grim."

Though *Pennied Days* plays as blithe and carefree, so much of the tracklist is wrapped in the anxieties Night Moves faced in the years between albums. "Kind Luck" is the type of haunted love song that questions the very purpose of the emotion, and album closer "Only to Live in Your Memories" uses heartbreak as a gateway to greater disillusionment.

"Having to divide your time between someone you love and something you love, that can be really disillusioning," Pelant says. "You just wonder which one is gonna be around longer. When you start thinking like that, it can get a little fucked up."

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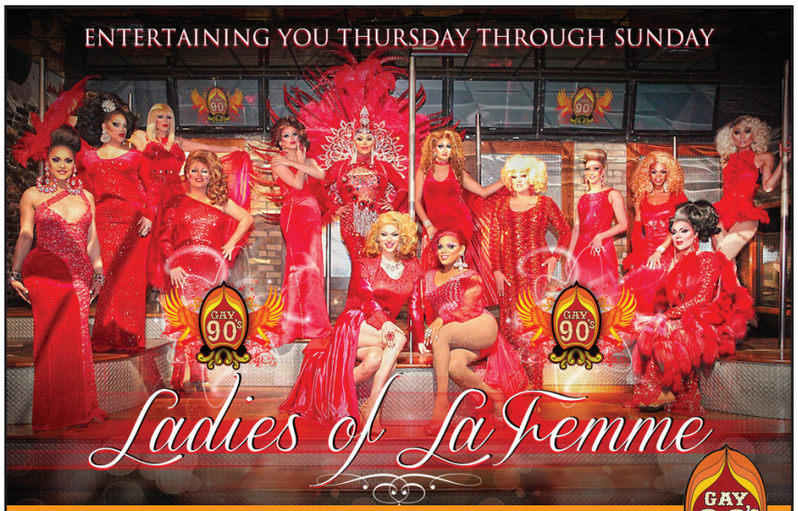

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As such, *Pennied Days*' gestation was not without casualties. In 2014, Ritsema, a founding member of Night Moves, left the band to pursue a solo career as Suzie. His debut, *Born Single*, took off immediately, leading many to wonder what'd become of Night Moves.

"During that period of time, it was a large period of growth where people were becoming themselves — something's gotta get pushed out," Pelant says. Ritsema recorded on roughly half of *Pennied Days*, and the former bandmates are all on good terms.

Much of the band's maturation had to do with Pelant acquiescing to the reality of writing an album while on a label. For the first time in their careers, he and Alfano were professional musicians with professional expectations. Whereas *Colored Emotions* was conceived in the vacuum before radio showcases and Pitchfork reviews, *Pennied Days* was created under the guidance of Domino.

"They really pushed us to get into some different territory so we weren't just making a second *Colored Emotions*," Pelant says. "But at the same time, there was so much growth. I learned a lot, and the record does sound better. When I listen to the first record, and I never thought that'd be the case, I get a little cringey."

But the process was frustrating. Pelant was flown out to New York by himself to work on *Pennied Days* with Kurt Vile/Hold Steady producer John Agnello. Whereas Pelant had produced much of *Colored Emotions* on his own with Thom Monahan acting as something of a re-engineer, Agnello defied Pelant's vision of a washed-out, space-rock burner.

"The whole thing with like the record label, I think we thought it was going to be easier than it was," Pelant says. "It got kinda hairy towards the mixing process. With 'Carl Sagan,' I was messing with the filters, and [Agnello] was like, 'You're totally ruining the mix, you're fucking everything up.' We almost killed each other. It was bad."

Agnello's insistence that Night Moves make vocals more present in the recording, combined with Domino's emphasis on laying down a definitive single, made Pelant nervous that Night Moves would become another victim of big-label meddling. For the first time, he was letting outside forces into his creative process. But, back in the Twin Cities, Alfano could see that those forces were ultimately working for good.

"A lot of bands don't get what we got," Alfano says. "Friends in other bands have expressed jealousy that we were pushed."

Through it all, Pelant and Alfano have learned they're better off without meteoric rises. Gradual and meaningful growth sustained them through the sudden upswell and the prolonged hush. Without the pauses and periods of silence, they wouldn't be making so much noise today. CP

CRITICS' PICKS

HAR MAR SUPERSTAR

TURF CLUB, WEDNESDAY 4.6
& FIRST AVENUE, FRIDAY 4.8

Minnesota-born R&B maven Har Mar Superstar is a rightful spectacle, and his forthcoming album, *Best Summer Ever*, stands to prove as much to his largest audience ever. All eyes are on the real-life Sean Tillmann after the success of his sultry, sun-bleached single "Youth Without Love," which was written with the help of *Summer* producer/Strokes mastermind Julian Casablancas. Denizens of the Twin Cities have known that Har Mar was a hitmaker since he first debuted in a burst of synth and testosterone in 2000, but the impending, Karen O-guesting release will finally answer the question of whether or not the world is ready for Sean Tillmann. Invisible Boy and Cherry Cola open Wednesday at the Turf; Solid Gold, Bug Fix, and DJ Fundo open Friday, the official release day for *Summer*. *21+, $20, 7 p.m., Turf Club, 1601 University Ave. W., St. Paul; 651-647-0486 & 18+, $20, 8 p.m., First Avenue, 701 First Ave. N., Minneapolis; 612-338-8388.* —JERARD FAGERBERG

FATHER

CABOOZE, FRIDAY 4.8

Father followed up his debauched 2015 debut, *Who's Gonna Get Fucked First?*, with last month's *I'm a Piece of Shit*, a subdued and contemplative take on the Atlanta rapper's penchant for drugs, sex, and snap bass. It's the comedown counterpoint to his traditionally rambunctious Awful Records sound, an underground slice of Atlanta's bubbling rap scene. On *Shit*, Father is as interested in hedonism and turning up as the big industry names, but he approaches his sound with a looser vibe and a casual, lo-fi cool. Featuring a stacked bill of rappers who produce themselves — including local wunderkind Bobby Raps and Chicago's droning Martin $ky — this Red Bull Sound Select showcase is a solid representation of some of the most unique voices in under-the-radar rap, and worth checking out for anyone interested in the innovations happening at the fringes. With Bobby Raps, Martin $ky, DJ TIIIIIIIIIP, and bvkwoods. *18+. $3 w/ RSVP. 8 p.m. 917 Cedar Ave., Minneapolis; 612-338-6425.* —JACK SPENCER

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DENZEL CURRY

7TH ST. ENTRY, FRIDAY 4.8

Expanding upon the dark grit that defined his former Raider Klan crew, Florida's Denzel Curry has grown his sound and stretched his talents since his teen mixtape days with his sophomore effort, last month's *Imperial*. Keeping his wide-ranging influences on his sleeve — a punk-tinged blend of Three 6 Mafia's lo-fi goth raps, nostalgia-addled Golden Age underground, and Florida's party-driven turn-up sound — Curry added pop character to to his latest effort without sacrificing his distinctive and energetic vibe. It's a refined version of his experimental attitude toward music, and is sure to gain a lot from his expressive live performance. Opener J.K. the Reaper represents some of the best work coming from today's oppositional rap underground. *18+. $16. 8 p.m. 701 First Ave. N., Minneapolis. 612-338-8388.* —JACK SPENCER

PIG DESTROYER

TRIPLE ROCK SOCIAL CLUB, SATURDAY 4.9

Virginia's pioneering metal outfit Pig Destroyer — who helped define the caustic sonics, blistering speed, and visceral intensity of American grindcore — will play their first Minneapolis show since forming in 1997. Incorporating electronics and grimly poetic lyrics into a hybridized amalgam of hardcore, sludge, thrash, and powerviolence, the five-piece add unique elements to their blast-beats and sinew-chewing guitar tone. The fine-tuning of that unbridled sound amounts to a pummeling, excruciating whole. Pig Destroyer's live shows are a rarity, but their brand of rancorous, nihilistic musical fervor remains among the most celebrated in extreme music. The intimate Triple Rock should provide a tightly packed mosh pit for the band's under-a-minute bursts of destructive intensity. With Call of the Void, Invidiosus, Ambassador Gun, and Aetheric. *18+. $17-$20. 8 p.m. 629 Cedar Ave., Minneapolis; 612.333.7399.* —JACK SPENCER

GALACTIC AND BOMBINO

FIRST AVENUE, SATURDAY 4.9

Packing a potent, funky punch powerful even by New Orleans standards, Galactic have been stirring up the gumbo for more than 20 years. Driven by master drummer Stanton Moore's kit, Galactic douse the traditional NOLA ingredients of second-line funk, jazz, brass bands, and Mardi Gras Indians stuff with an innovative array of spices, running the gamut from hip-hop to rock, soul, gospel, and global carnival sounds. Currently touring with the Galactic core is Crescent City soul singer Erica Falls. Bombino is the nickname of Omara Moctar, a Tuareg guitarist and singer from northern Niger who plays his own variation of Saharan "desert blues," largely brought to the world's attention by the late Ali Farka Touré. Bombino superbly picks out characteristically intricate Saharan guitar patterns while singing in Tamasheq about love, desert life, and preserving Tuareg culture. His new album, *Azel*, produced by Dirty Projectors' Dave Longstreth, pushes the envelope a bit, incorporating rock, Celtic, and even Cajun influences. *18+. $26-$28. 8 p.m. 701 First Ave. N., Minneapolis; 612-338-8388.* —RICK MASON

JAY ELECTRONICA

CABOOZE, SUNDAY 4.10

Months shy of turning 40 and perpetually without a proper debut album, Jay Electronica is one of rap's most respected figures despite operating outside of standard music-industry practices. It's common to hear him praised by fans as an all-time great, a dazzling, whip-smart lyricist on par with absolutely anyone in the rap game. It's a status he's reached by unspooling verses of his nomadic, truth-seeking adult life over accompaniment ranging from Jon Brion's score for *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind* (on the 2007 project *Act 1: Eternal Sunshine (The Pledge)*) to the more conventional backdrop of an earth-shaking Just Blaze beat (2009's staggering masterpiece single "Exhibit C"). He's maintained a low public profile throughout, even as an artist on Jay Z's Roc Nation roster. The real-live Timothy Thedford's distance from the spotlight ultimately makes him as intriguing as he is elusive, and it's why a live show is the best opportunity to encounter the man whose legend keeps growing. *18+. $20-$30. 7 p.m. 917 Cedar Ave. S., Minneapolis; 612-338-6425.* —MIKE MADDEN

ANI DIFRANCO

FIRST AVENUE, SUNDAY 4.10

Ani DiFranco has been making gutsy folk music that shakes listeners from their Top 40 stupors and rallies audiences to action for almost 30 years. Offstage and on, she uses her feminist icon status to raise awareness about political and social issues at a grassroots level. A tireless entrepreneur and independent musician, the 45-year-old known for her unconventional vocals, blunt lyrics, and enviable fingerpicking guitar skills has released over 20 albums on her own label, Righteous Babe Records. DiFranco, a Buffalo, New York, native, now lives in New Orleans with her husband-producer and their two children. Her 18th studio album, *Allergic to Water*, came out in 2014. She spoke to City Pages ahead of the Minneapolis stop of her Vote Dammit! tour, telling us, "Music has been on the forefront of every social movement there ever was." Local singer-songwriter Chasity Brown opens. *18+. $45. 7 p.m. 701 First Ave. N., Minneapolis; 612-338-8388.* —ERICA RIVERA

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A Nazi role-play request

Dan Savage

I am a twentysomething, straight, cis-female expat. How long do I have to wait to ask my German lover, who is übersensitive about the Holocaust, to indulge me in my greatest — and, until now, unrealized — fantasy: Nazi role play? He is very delicate around me because I am a secular Jew and the descendant of Holocaust survivors. (Even though I've instructed him to watch The Believer, *starring Ryan Gosling as a Jewish neo-Nazi, to get a better grasp on my relationship with Judaism. To be clear, I am not actually a neo-Nazi — just your garden-variety self-hating Jew.) This persists even though we've spoken about my anti-Zionist politics. Evidently he was indoctrinated from a young age with a hyperapologetic history curriculum. I appreciate that he thinks it was wrong for the SS to slaughter my family, but it's not like he did it himself. I know it sounds really fucked up, but I promise this isn't coming from a place of deep-seated self-loathing. Even if it were, it's not like we'd be hurting anybody. We're both in good psychological working condition, and neither of us is an actual bigot. I would try to get to know him better, but we are so different (there's a big age difference) and I don't really see our relationship being much more than ze sex.*

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"Sex writers get all the really good religion questions," said Mark Oppenheimer. "Can we trade mailboxes sometime soon? I'm tired of dealing with all the questions about why evangelicals support a thrice-married misogynist reality-TV star who never goes to church."

Oppenheimer writes the Beliefs column for the New York Times and is co-host of Unorthodox, an "irreverent podcast about Jews and other people" (tabletmag.com/unorthodox). I invited Oppenheimer to weigh in because I am, sadly, not Jewish myself. (Jewishness is conferred through matrilineal descent; your mom — or, if you're Reform, either parent — has to be Jewish for you to be Jewish, so all those blowjobs I gave to my first Jewish boyfriend were for nothing. No birthright trip for me.)

"First off, I think that Die Fraulein should make her kinky proposal ASAP," said Oppenheimer. "Given the 'hyper-apologetic' curriculum that her Teutonic stud has absorbed, he is probably going to freak out no matter when she asks. On the other hand, if he's open and kink-positive, he'll probably be down for whatever. But it's all or nothing in a case like this. She can't win him over by persuading him that she's not one of those uptight, unforgiving Jewesses who is still hung up on the destruction of European Jewry."

While your kink didn't really faze Oppenheimer (it's not exactly unheard of), NSPP, your discomfort with your own Judaism did.

"In her letter, she assures us that she is 'secular,' 'anti-Zionist,' and 'garden-variety self-hating' — then jokingly compares herself to the Jewish white supremacist (played by Ryan Gosling in that movie) who in real life killed himself after the New York Times outed him as a Jew," said Oppenheimer. "Now, all of us (especially homos and Yids) know something about self-loathing, and I think Jews are entitled to any and all views on Israel, and — again — I am not troubled by her kink. That said, I do think she needs to get to a happier place about her own heritage. Just as it's not good for black people to be uncomfortable with being black, or for queer people to wish they weren't queer, it's not healthy, or attractive, for Jews or Jewesses (we are taking back the term) to have such obvious discomfort with their Jewish heritage."

And finally, NSPP, I shared your letter with a German friend of mine, just to see how it might play with someone who benefited from a hyperapologetic history curriculum. Would he do something like this?

"Not in six million years."

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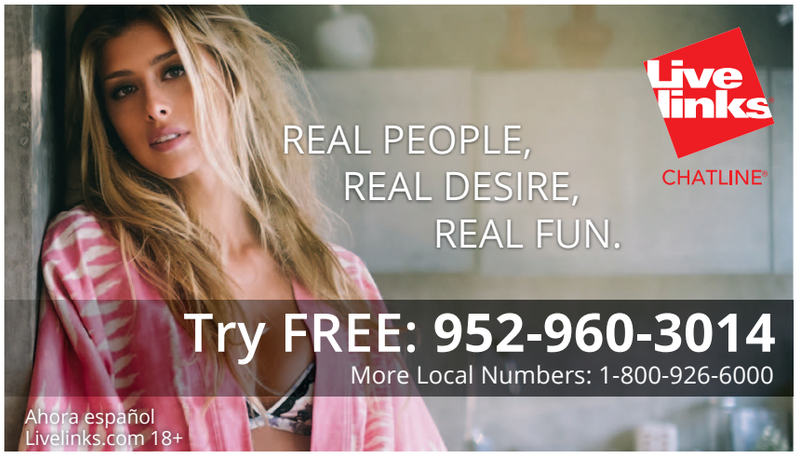

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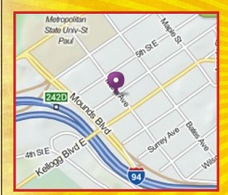

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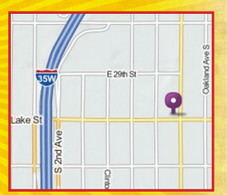

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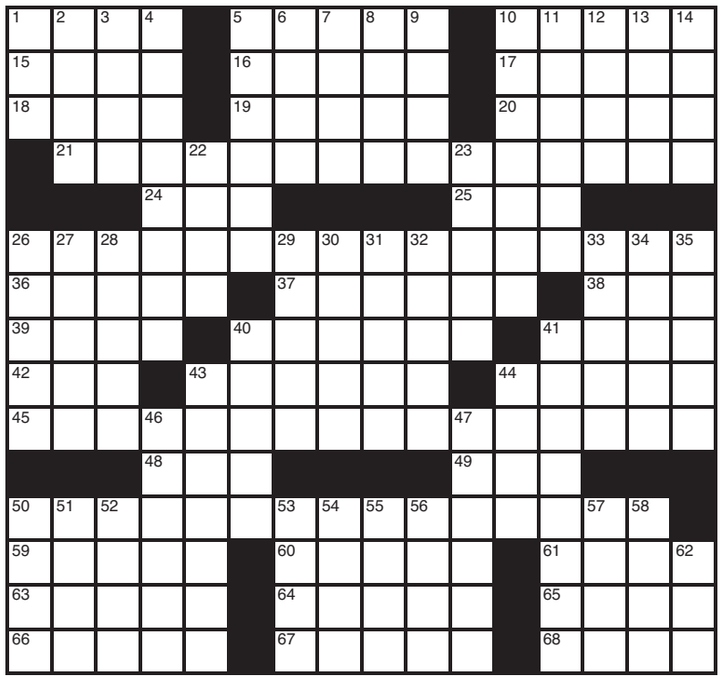

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Across

1. Hurt, as a little piggy
5. Craft with a paddle
10. One-two punch?
15. Speed skater Apolo
16. Balanced hand bridge opening
17. Large wet body
18. "Better Call ___"
19. "Grand" Wyoming peak
20. Tour de France measurement
21. "___"
24. Drug that Shatner wrote about
25. History department chairman?
26. See 1- and 62-Down, "Did Brendan mess up here?"
36. Drops with a noise
37. Writer de Tocqueville
38. Bernie ___ (Democratic dude)
39. Unconvincing
40. Drop by for a visit
41. Storrs st.
42. Actress Thurman
43. Greets at the front door
44. Tight bud
46. "My bad"
48. Brian who is releasing"The Ship" later this month
49. Persian Gulf fed.
59. Elevated stand
60. Detective Pinkerton
61. Monkey house residents
63. Luggage marker
64. Blast from the past
65. Manche's capital
66. Posturepedic maker
67. Cinematographer John
68. Kids stuff

Down

1. "Help me!"
2. Tom Yum cuisine
3. E Pluribus ___
4. Format for emphasis
5. Website in the #gamergate imbroglio
6. From the beginning
7. Abominable snowman
8. In a matter of seconds
9. Great ape of movies
10. Fighting chances?
11. Tiger's cousin
12. Puzzle beyond a puzzle
13. Stable home?
14. Minuscule amount of memory
22. Some old Olds
23. Sailing
26. Just-above-average grade
27. San Antonio site
28. Baseball analyst Garciaparra
29. Yelp user
30. 1998 Soul Coughing album whose name means "The Bear"
31. Celebrity chef Jacques
32. Fed___ (shipping)
33. Cold War threat
34. T-800 portrayer, to fans
35. It looks good on paper
40. Affix with a thread
41. What "brave" does in the national anthem
43. Combined effort
44. Grp. in the movie "Trumbo"
46. Give away the game
47. Subtle suggestion
50. Eye part
51. Surprise party directive just before it starts
52. Nick and Nora's dog
53. Besmirches
54. TV show with the theme song "Time for Some Girl Talk"
55. Stewpot
56. Kangaroo stabilizer
57. Reaching
58. Hard to pin down
62. Big name in scrubbing pads

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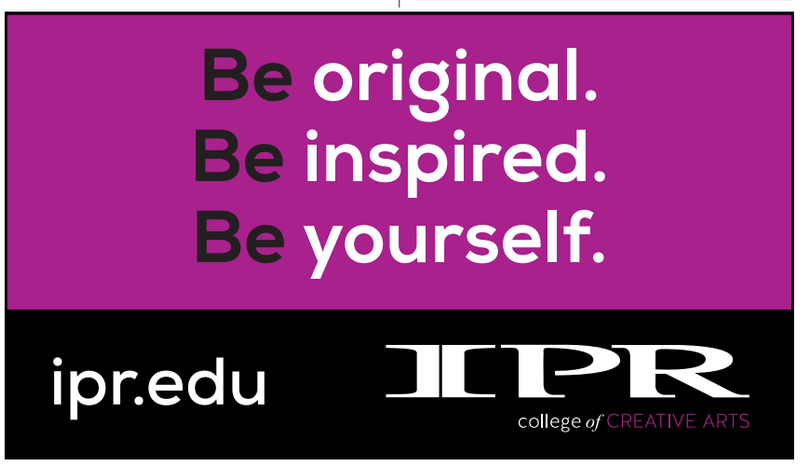

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